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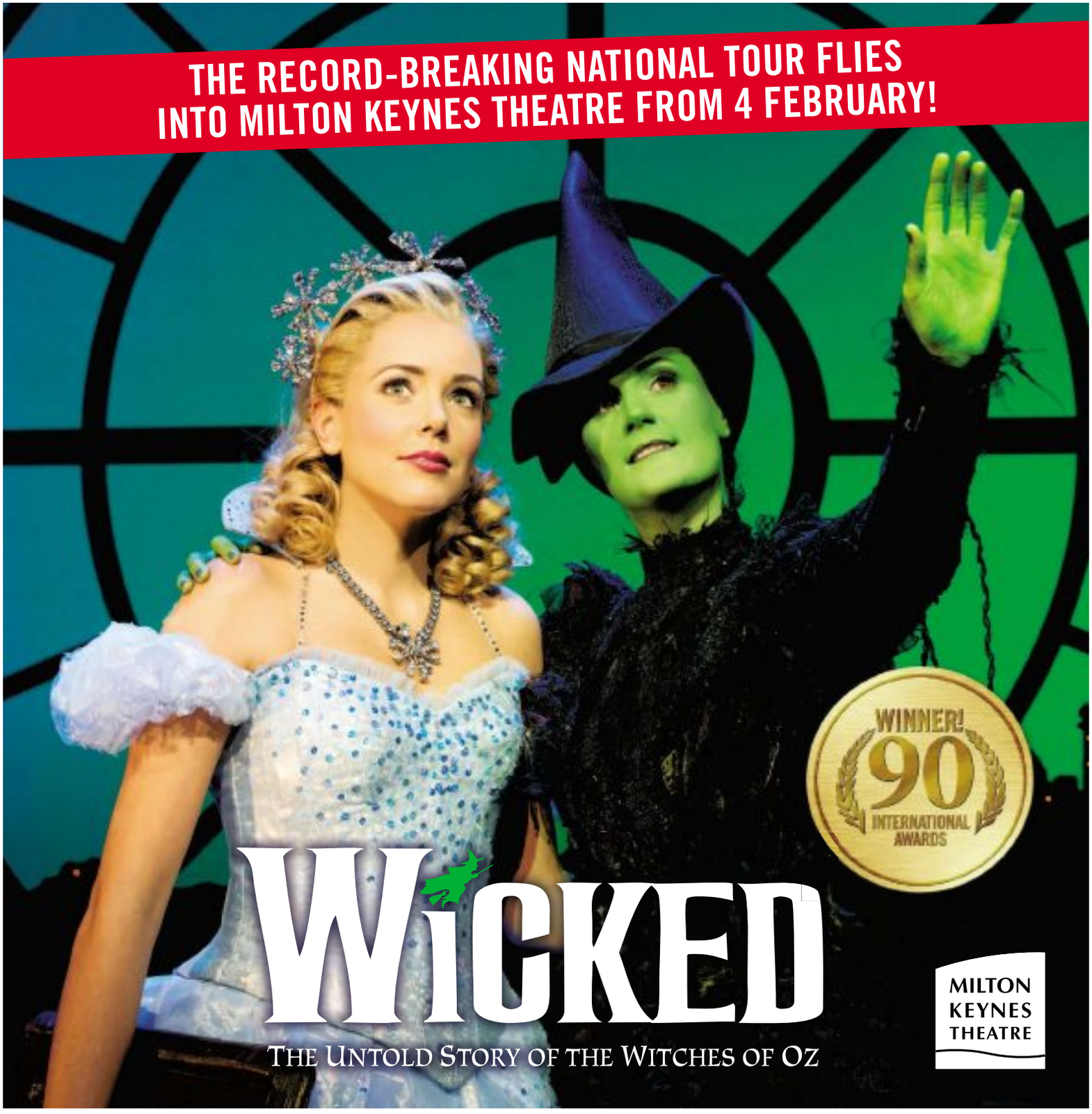

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MK NEWS

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Sarah steps up to help children

SEE **PAGE 30**

Mike's show is just the job

SEE **PAGE 7**

For updates on this story and more pictures visit: **www.mkweb.co.uk**

THIS was the scene after a body was discovered in Willen Lake yesterday. The lake was shut off to the public while it was searched and the police helicopter was scrambled. The death is unexplained but is 'not suspicious'.

Dog mess causes a stink

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

RESIDENTS are so fed up with dog mess on their pavements they have set up a committee and Facebook page to try and solve the problem.

The dog fouling has kicked up a stink in Stony Stratford – with the town council reporting that one school had to close to have its carpets cleaned because pupils have walked so much of it into the premises.

And residents believe the problem may get even worse.

Emily Malleson, 36, is on the residents' committee and told MK NEWS: "I created a Facebook page as I was fed up with the dog mess and there are other members who are also very angry about it.

"It is particularly horrendous near the school. The council comes and clears it up but we want to stop it from happening in the first place.

"We no longer have any dog wardens to enforce fines and the community wardens are disappearing on March 31 as a result of cuts.

"One school circled poo along the main walk ways and parks to their school and they found the amount horrendous.

"Children are walking through it every morning and I imagine the situation is going to get worse even though it is pretty bad already."

Ian Reed is the deputy town clerk of Stony Stratford Town Council and said he 'didn't know why' there was such a problem.

He said: "It is the biggest issue in Stony at the moment and there have been lots of complaints.

"There is a committee of parents that has been set up as children are walking it into their schools and we are trying to help them as much as we can.

"Dog owners can't say there are no dog bins in Stony Stratford and we are actually adding two more soon.

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"We are also concerned at the potential risk of toxocariasis, something that if the children get it in their eyes could blind them."

A spokesman for Milton Keynes Council, which is responsible for clearing the mess up, confirmed it has received 54 separate complaints about the issue since April 2013.

They added: "The council takes dog fouling very seriously and is working with residents and the town council to resolve these issues.

"We do need help from the local community to assist us in catching the perpetrators."

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It has supported 40,000 learners at over 7,000 employer sites across the country. More than 70% of HIT apprentices complete their apprenticeships and obtain either a BTEC or City & Guilds diploma. HIT can also access government funding for eligible learners. Meet them at the MK Job Show or visit: www.hittraining.co.uk.

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With strong positions in key markets including No. 1 at London Gatwick, Edinburgh, Milan Malpensa, Nice and Geneva, and No. 2 at London Stansted, Paris Charles De Gaulle, Lisbon and Rome Fiumicino, easyJet is well positioned with over 300 million people within a one hour drive of an easyJet airport. Meet them at the MK Job Show or visit www.easyjetcareers.com.

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HOME RETAIL GROUP is the UK's leading home and general merchandise retailer with sales of around £5.5 billion in the financial year to February 2013. Selling products under three distinct and complementary retail brands - Argos, Homebase and Habitat. The Group employs some 48,000 people across the business.

Argos is a leading UK digital retailer, offering around 29,000 products through argos.co.uk, its growing mobile channels, stores and over the telephone. Argos serves around 124 million customers a year through its network of around 735 stores.

Homebase is a leading home enhancement retailer selling around 38,000 products for the home and garden. It has 333 large, out-of-town stores throughout the UK and Republic of Ireland serving around 60 million customers a year, and a growing internet offering at homebase.co.uk.

Habitat has been making outstanding design accessible to all since 1964 and today has three flagship central London stores in Tottenham Court Road, King's Road and Finchley Road.

Meet them at the MK Job Show or to find out more about a variety of exciting opportunities see homeretailgroup.com/careers.

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TRAVIS PERKINS (a FTSE 100 Listed Company) is proud to be the UK's largest supplier of Building Materials. The Travis Perkins Group has followed a successful strategy of acquisition and organic growth over the last 200 years. Group revenue increased to £4,885m and operating profit increased by 4.3% in 2012 and has over 1,850 outlets nationwide. They have offices in Northampton and Watford. The Group now consists of 16 leading industry brands: Travis Perkins, Wickes, Keyline, City Plumbing Supplies, CCF, Benchmarx Kitchen & Joinery, Tile Giant, Toolstation, SBS City Heating Spares, BSS Industrial, DHS - Direct Heating Spares, F & P Wholesale, Birchwood Price Tools, PTS, Connections and Solfex.

Their reputation and success has been driven by the honesty, integrity and pride of all 24,000 employees, each who share a determination and passion to succeed. The group are also involved in supporting local communities and in 2012 raised £2.1m for 17 charity partners. They are recognised by The CRF Institute as one of Britain's top employers.

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Travis Perkins

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THE MONARCH GROUP is the UK's leading independent travel group with core activities in scheduled airline operations, tour operations and aircraft engineering. The Group has been in existence for over 45 years and is made up of some of the best known brands in the industry including Monarch Airlines, Cosmos Holidays, Avro, somewhere2stay, Monarch Aircraft Engineering and First Aviation.

With such a diverse portfolio of businesses they are in a great position to be able to offer career opportunities across a broad range of roles including Cabin Crew, Pilots, Overseas Representatives and Engineers as well as office based roles within Finance, IT, Marketing and HR. Customer Service and Safety are at the heart of everything they do and as such their dedicated Recruitment team are always looking for talented people to join the group in their vision 'to be the customers' choice for outstanding service and value.

The Monarch Group is constantly adapting to the changing needs of their customers to ensure they stay competitive. As the Group continues to grow and pursue new ventures, there has never been a better time to join them. Meet them at the MK Job Show or visit www.monarch.co.uk/jobs.

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FCO SERVICES is a Trading fund of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, keeping their people, assets and information across the globe safe and secure from the threats they face. They also work with other government departments, in the UK and overseas, to deliver a range of secure services.

A representative from the FCO Services said: "Our people are our greatest asset and as an Investors in People (IiP) employer we're committed to developing careers across all of our teams from Project Management and ICT Operations through to Logistics and Finance. We have an extensive programme of professional development and a long-running, award winning, apprenticeship scheme."

With over sixty years experience in secure services, FCO Services are expert advisors in security. Services include: protective security, estates and construction, logistics and ICT. They are based in Hanslope Park near Milton Keynes, with a small number of staff in London and overseas.

"We would be interested in talking to potential candidates about a future career with FCO Services."

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"We are always looking for talent in Risk, Collections, Marketing and more"

Santander has 3,500 people in their Milton Keynes operation, making it one of their biggest offices in the UK. As well as their contact centre, the building is home to a range of key functions including Marketing, Finance and Risk.

They are always on the lookout for talent in the area offering competitive remuneration packages, benefits, first class training and plenty of opportunities both within the UK and internationally in return.

Wendy Carr, Resourcing Manager at Santander UK said: "We have numerous exciting opportunities coming up in the Milton Keynes office. We are especially recruiting heavily into our Risk function with numerous of opportunities live now and to come in 2014. Milton Keynes is great for anyone who might want a competitive alternative to London, not only from location perspective but also including an onsite gym and great team and social opportunities. We are joining the MK Job Show in January and hope to meet potential employees there". Visit www.santanderjobs.co.uk for information.

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MKNEWSBRIEFS

Committees reinstated
BLETCHLEY and Fenny Stratford Town Council has reversed its decision to abolish its committees. Since MK NEWS reported on the move, the council has 'reviewed its structure' after finding that having one committee was 'unmanageable'. It has since introduced committees dealing with community and planning, resources and finance and policy and urgency.

Shoplifter is sentenced
ERNESTAS Inta, aged 30 and of no fixed abode, has been jailed after pleading guilty to burgling a house in Conniburrow and shoplifting DVDs from Tesco in Wolverton. He received 26 and four weeks imprisonment respectively for the offences, which will run concurrently. He was sentenced at Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court on Saturday.

OAP distraction burglary
A 90-YEAR-OLD woman was the victim of a distraction burglary in Bletchley. Last Wednesday one offender spoke to the lady at her house in Severn Way while another searched upstairs. They left with jewellery. Read more about this story at www.mkweb.co.uk

A week of telling jokes
SHOPPERS are being asked to 'make MK smile' by leaving their jokes on post-it notes on a wall in Midsummer Place. The week long celebration ends on Saturday and the best joke will win a £50 voucher.

Driver is 'lucky to have survived'

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A MAN is 'lucky to have survived' after he was thrown from his car as it rolled 60 metres into a ditch.

Firefighters were called to what they thought was a fatal road accident on Saturday, but when they arrived they discovered the driver was still alive and lying in a one-and-a-half-metre deep ditch next to his vehicle.

Firefighters had to pull him out of the ditch on a stretcher using a ladder.

He was taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford with injuries that were serious but not life-threatening.

The crash happened on the A5 Watling Street near Little Brickhill as the Ford Focus C-MAX was travelling towards the roundabout next to McDonald's at 10.17pm.

Just before reaching the roundabout, the car came off the road and rolled with such force the engine was thrown into the road.

Another motorist was injured when their car crashed into the engine and they had to be treated by paramedics at the scene.

A spokesman from Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service said: "This incident was remarkable.

"After seeing the state of the car the man was lucky to have survived.

Smashed up: This picture shows the car after it had rolled into the ditch. Remarkably the driver survived the crash

"We searched the area with a thermal imaging camera to make absolutely certain no-one else had been thrown from the car.

"We hope the man makes a speedy recovery."

Police are continuing to investigate how the accident happened. Anyone with information can call 101.

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Error in tenants' bedroom tax bill

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

DOZENS of tenants have been wrongly hit by the 'bedroom tax' and are in line for a refund of hundreds of pounds, it has emerged.

A loophole in the legislation means that tenants who have claimed housing benefit continuously since 1996 are exempt from having their payments reduced because they have a 'spare' room.

Milton Keynes Council has already contacted 57 council and 21 private tenants who qualify for their money back and others have been told to talk to their housing officers.

It is believed that the Department for Work and Pensions missed the loophole when drawing up the bedroom tax bill in April last year.

Another unknown regulation that has come to light this week is that the council has signed up to the Housing Act 1985, which states a bedroom needs to be bigger than 50sq ft for it to count as another room.

A mother from Hodge Lee recently discovered the regulation and will receive a refund of between £400 and £600 from the council.

A council spokesman said: "We have classified box bedrooms of less than 50sq ft as a study and disregarded them from rent calculations.

"We are confident that we have the right number of bedrooms for our properties, but we do still get the occasional enquiry and in such cases we will go out and measure the room."

Eileen Gracey, 57, who pays bedroom tax and is campaigning to get it scrapped, said: "It's disgraceful that this has happened.

"Unfortunately I will not benefit from this, but I am really pleased that it will significantly help others."

Queue: Dogs show they can wait just as patiently as their human owners at the Metro bank

Loans and bones at bank

A NEW bank has broken with tradition by welcoming customer's dogs into the branch – and gives them a tasty treat while their owners sort out their finances.

The Metro Bank, which opened in thecentre:mk on Friday, will even provide water bowls, biscuits and bandanas for its canine customers.

It has even promised to refund fees incurred by new and existing customers if they rehome a dog or cat from Battersea Dogs and Cats Homes. A spokesman for the bank said: "Bring your dog in when you visit – we'd love to meet them!"

MKNEWSBRIEFS

Ford is suspended

THE head of Milton Keynes Council's regulatory unit, Karen Ford, has been suspended pending 'an investigation', it has been revealed.

Sex assault on teen

A 19-YEAR-OLD girl was sexually assaulted in Saxon Street,Coffee Hall, at 11.10pm on Friday. More information can be found at www.mkweb.co.uk

'Lucky' fire escape

FIREFIGHTERS have said that a family were 'lucky' to escape an early morning blaze in Church Street, Wolverton, on Sunday as they did not have any fire alarms installed.

Man stabbed by thieves

A 35-YEAR-OLD man was stabbed in the leg by thieves who broke into his house.

The man was woken by his dog barking at his home in Grange Farm at 4.30am last Sunday. He was confronted by three men who demanded money and attempted to tie his wrists before stabbing him.

The burglars put the victim and his partner in a room before leaving with an iPhone, laptop and £40. All three offenders were wearing dark clothing and two were black and one was white. If you have information call police on 101.

Plans for 'waterside' housing

RESIDENTS are being invited to have their say on plans to develop 'high quality urban waterside' houses close to the Grand Union Canal.

The consultation, lasting until February 24, sets out the plans and designs for three key developments in the Campbell Park and Newlands areas. Read more at www.mkweb.co.uk

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We also deliver other newspaper titles into the rest of Bedfordshire, Northants, Cambs and further afield.

In addition to our household deliveries, we hand copies of MK NEWS to commuters at MK Railway Station every Wednesday morning between 6.15am and 9.15am.

We also deliver an additional 8,000 copies each week into public buildings, offices, industrial areas, bars, restaurants and shops for people to read that may not live locally and receive a copy at home.

According to the latest independent, audited readership figures, MK NEWS has a weekly readership in excess of 130,000 adults and this figure is growing as we add on more copies to our distribution across MK. We aim to deliver the best possible service to our readers but if you have any questions or concerns about distribution please feel free to contact our team on the number listed above. Our deliverers earn top rates of pay. If you'd like to join our team please contact the distribution department on the number above.

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MK LETTERS

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What about investing in our kids' education?

I HAVE lived in Milton Keynes for more than 20 years and five generations of my family currently live in Coffee Hall.

Three of my grandchildren have attended Coffee Tots Pre-school and I have a great-grandchild on its waiting list. I am therefore well aware of the important contribution that the pre-school (which is incidentally run as a charity) makes to the local community.

Unfortunately, Milton Keynes Council appears to be totally ignorant of the pre-school's important role in setting children up for their future education.

When the potential move to the Coffee Hall Out Of School Project (CHOOSP) building was identified as an option more than 10 months ago, the council was initially supportive and enthusiastic.

However, after it had come up with its own generic and flawed cost overestimates, it quickly went into 'radio silence' about the basis and assumptions of these costs, leaving the pre-school with no guidance on the way forward.

This happened despite repeated assurances by the pre-school committee that discussion and site visits with the Pre-school Learning Alliance and local fire officers had rendered the CHOOSP building as a compatible setting and that local skilled and unskilled community volunteers would undertake much of the minor work required.

After all of the recent furore and resources spent on ensuring that Milton Keynes has a future as a 'Smart City' hub, it is a shame that the council cannot show the same enthusiasm for investing in the city's real future…its children!

Glenda Gould
Coffee Hall

Speaking out: Coffee Tots Pre-school staff, parents and children are worried they could be left without a home. Their story was covered in last week's MK NEWS after they held a protest outside Milton Keynes Council's offices

We want new homes

IT'S a shame James Farmer, who commented in this paper on the refusal by Milton Keynes Council to grant planning permission for the 'hobbit house', is not conversant with the Core Strategy (*Letters, January 15*).

If he was then he would know that Bow Brickhill volunteered, as a 'selected village', to increase its total number of dwellings by 12 per cent.

The houses have yet to be built, but that's down to the landowner's delay. Residents are keen for the development to proceed.

Concerning the 'hobbit house', I don't think the absence of one very expensive bungalow, in two halves, buried into a steep hillside, will have any discernible effect on MK's housing needs.

Sue Malleson
Bow Brickhill

Time to put on a show

AMIDST the talk of the expansion of Milton Keynes, its aspiration of city status and the development of its central areas, I have seen no mention of the provision of a major auditorium, concert hall or indoor entertainment arena.

Every week the national press publishes the extensive touring programmes of leading entertainers, popular shows, performers, orchestras and the like, many of which do not come here.

We are fortunate in having an excellent theatre in CMK and the unique, but small, Stables in Wavendon, but other venues, worthy as they may be, are too small to accommodate major popular events.

With the prospect of some day having one of the country's largest urban populations, Milton Keynes should be establishing itself more prominently on the national entertainment map by building a significant additional venue on the scale of Croydon's Fairfield Hall, Bristol's Colston Hall, Birmingham's Symphony Hall, Nottingham's Concert Hall or even the Barbican.

Before the remaining vacant and central redevelopment sites in CMK are taken up with amorphous blocks of flats and offices we need a financially endowed, forward looking organisation, theatre group or business consortium to invest in the long-term commercial and cultural opportunity which exists.

Milton Keynes is often portrayed by snide critics and the ill-informed as notable for only concrete cows and roundabouts. The location here of a nationally recognised indoor performance venue would do much to enhance the perception and attraction of our fine 'city'.

It would be interesting to know if anyone else thinks on these lines and whether such an idea features in the long-term proposals of our planners.

Malcolm Anderson
Woughton on the Green

Thanks for donations

I AM writing to thank your readers who contributed to the 2013 Cornerstone Christmas Appeal.

We raised £9,250, which was nearly £2,000 ahead of target and over £3,000 more than 2012.

We have paid £1,000 to Age UK Milton Keynes; CAFOD; the Hospital Charity; Open Door; the Redway School and the YMCA. We have also paid £500 to the Crosslinks Centre on the Lakes Estate and the Milton Keynes Bereavement Service. We have paid £200 to the Food Bank for which we also collected food. Five other charities working with us raised a further £2,000, namely AYME (the Association of Young People with ME), the Milton Keynes Cardiac Support Group, Medical Detection Dogs, the Shenley Church Fellowship Acorns Group, and the Milton Keynes Reader Service.

Without your readers' generosity none of this would have been possible. Thank you!

Sam Crooks
Sent via email

Your comments on web stories

Share your views on articles – log onto www.mkweb.co.uk

Council raises rent

AS USUAL the Conservatives want to screw me over again.

An above inflation rise is a joke. I am already struggling with energy bills, fuel and food.

Collin Adams

Village 'hobbit house'

DAVID Hopkins is an honest and very hard working councillor who always has the interests of his ward at heart.

While being a tight knit community, Bow Brickhill is not against all development, it wants to see houses on the Blind Pond Farm site, but it does not want development outside the village envelope, nor does it want to merge into Milton Keynes.

Mary Preen

Rubbish in Wolverton

THIS is nothing new. For years I have complained about the rubbish that flies over the fences.

It gets cleaned up and the next week it's all back.

This is a nice scenic walk spoilt by the company behind it – pollution at its best

Name supplied

For more on this see page 20

THE RECYCLED PAPER CONTENT OF UK NEWSPAPERS IN 2011 WAS 78.9 PER CENT

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An w-edition of our paper is also available online

Man of business: Mike Bickerdike has helped organise the MK Job Show at thecentre:mk

Big firms set for job show

A HOST of big name companies will be taking part in the MK Job Show this weekend.

Top companies will be at the event in Middleton Hall at thecentre:mk looking for potential employees from 10am-6pm on Saturday.

Businesses such as Travis Perkins, easyJet, Monarch and Allianz will be exhibiting, while there will also be chances to join organisations including Milton Keynes Council, the NHS and the army.

More than 90,000 people are due to visit the shopping centre on the day with many expected to visit the event, supported by MK NEWS and MKWeb.

Co-organiser Mike Bickerdike said: "Milton Keynes is one of the most successful cities in the UK with over 400 new companies having set up in the area in the last year. It was time for the MK Job Show to take place."

Prison is among top for suicides

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

WOODHILL Prison had one of the highest numbers of suicides in England and Wales last year, according to new figures.

There were four self-inflicted deaths in 2013 and only Wormwood Scrubs Prison in London – which has a significantly larger population – recorded more suicides, with five.

In total there were five deaths at Woodhill last year, including one from natural causes, mentioned in the report by the Howard League for Penal Reform, which was released on Monday.

One of them was 21-year-old Sean Brock, who, as previously reported by MK NEWS, hanged himself in his cell while he was remanded in custody at Woodhill in November 2013.

According to the report prison suicide and homicide rates have reached their highest level for 15 years.

There were 199 deaths in prisons in England and Wales in 2013 with 70 of those being categorised as self-inflicted – the highest in six years.

A spokesman from Woodhill said: "We are committed to making sure the prison is safe and secure, this includes reducing the number of deaths and applying strenuous efforts to learn from each one.

"Every death is subject to an investigation by the police and the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman."

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Checking out plans

PLANNING officers have recommended that an extension to retail units in Middleton Hall at thecentre:mk – that would create three new shopfronts – is refused at a development committee meeting tomorrow afternoon.

Register to vote

YOUNG voters in Milton Keynes are being urged to register to vote as part of National Voter Registration Day today. To register visit www.bitetheballot.co.uk

Muriel is appointed

MURIEL Scott has been appointed as the director of public health for Milton Keynes.

No drinking zone idea muted

A NO drinking zone could be introduced in the centre of a town.

Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council has announced it is in the early stages of considering banning alcohol in an area covering from the bus station, down to and including Fenny Stratford. This would also include Leon Recreation Ground, as well as other local park areas.

The council said 'no decision has been made' and it would appreciate feedback emailed to info@bfstc.co.uk.

Tenants to pay more rent

AN ABOVE inflation rent rise has been announced by Milton Keynes Council.

Tenants' rents have gone up by 3.5 per cent, which is an average increase of £155 a year, or £2.97 per week. The move was decided last Wednesday as part of the Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2014-15.

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AS THE population of Milton Keynes continues to grow, there is more demand for school places. Milton Keynes Council has announced it is working with Two Mile Ash and Denbigh schools to create facilities and provide more places in September 2015

How it could look: An artist's impression of the expansion expected at Denbigh School

Plans for 300 extra pupils

EXPANSION plans at Denbigh School could see it take on an extra 300 pupils next year.

A new block which will boast a performance hall, drama studio, activity room, music teaching and practise rooms, art rooms and general teaching classrooms along with offices and toilets is planned.

Remodelling within the existing school will create additional food technology rooms, dining space, science labs and sixth form accommodation and another hard play area.

Denbigh has decided to expand – along with Two Mile Ash School, *see below* – to help meet the increasing demand for school places. It already caters for about 1,400 students.

The proposals are being looked at as part of a partnership with Milton Keynes Council, utilising funding secured from the Department for Education (DfE).

Speaking to MK NEWS, Denbigh School's headteacher Sarah Parker said: "I am very excited about this project.

"It will provide extra spaces for young people in our community and it's good news for students both now and in the future."

Residents voice traffic concerns

BY JAMES AVERILL

james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

RESIDENTS fear a school expansion could make traffic problems near their homes even worse.

Two Mile Ash School wants to build a new block and playground to create room for an extra 180 pupils between the ages of four and seven.

But residents, who have already complained about the level of traffic outside the school in High Street, are worried it could become even worse – despite 50 extra parking spaces forming part of the development.

Resident Dave Lewis is a former school governor who is against the proposals.

He said: "I don't think anybody would say a bad word against the school, it's a wonderful school.

"But there are already lots of parents collecting their kids from school in cars as they are out of the catchment area. It's chaos at the moment and the expansion will only make it worse."

A statement from Two Mile Ash School's governors said: "To be given the opportunity to enhance our facilities is a really exciting time in the history of the school."

Inconsiderate: Parker ignores cones outside Two Mile Ash School

New classrooms, sixth form and games area

A SCHOOL in Bletchley has joined the list of those improving their facilities.

White Spire School has opened a sixth form centre, primary classrooms, multiuse games area and sensory garden.

The facilities were officially opened on Monday by Bletchley Park veteran Margaret Rowland, who was a member of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF) from 1943 to 1945.

The school's pupils have commemorated Margaret and her former colleagues at Bletchley Park by choosing to name their new sixth form building the Enigma Centre.

Headteacher Maria Penicud said: "It is wonderful to see how these new buildings have enhanced and enriched the whole learning environment.

"This was a special event in the school's history."

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IS YOUR POORLY PERFORMING PENSION DELAYING YOUR RETIREMENT? IF SO, READ ON

Did you know that by neglecting to review your pension you could be delaying your retirement age by 5 years or more? How is this possible I hear you ask.

Well the government has already phased in women's state retirement pension age from 60 to 65 in recent years. In addition to this they announced a further phased in delay in state pension entitlement from 65 up to 68 in the last couple of years.

My sister who works for the NHS is up in arms about this. She has a retirement age of 60 from the NHS pension scheme and had planned to retire at 60 in the belief that she would receive her state pension at the same age but that isn't now going to happen. She may have to work for another 6 years.

It is my belief that the retirement age for state and public sector pensions will continue to rise for the next 20 years because of our increasing life expectancy. Don't be surprised if retirement ages rise to age 80 or more in the future.

I've already told my children, all university students, not to expect to receive a state pension at all in the future and that they will have to create

Tony Byrne
Chartered and Certified Financial Planner
Author of Wealth Magic

their own wealth by not relying on the government or future employers to look after them.

What if you have a preserved or frozen pension/s? Basically these are ex-employers pension schemes or personal pensions that you no longer pay into. These pensions, if managed well and reviewed regularly, could be your lifeline to retirement at the age you want.

If, on the other hand, you don't ever review your pensions you may well find you are inadvertently delaying your retirement by 5 years or more. Is that what you want? Now there was nothing my sister could have done about her retirement age because the government moved the goal posts but you can definitely take action with your frozen pensions and get them working for you.

So why not have your pensions reviewed?

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Donation: New Tesco store hands cheque to Age UK MK

New Tesco opens with presentation

A NEW Tesco Express store in Woburn Sands celebrated its launch with a donation to Age UK Milton Keynes.

Store manager Jess Walker and her team presented Age UK's Maggi Clark and Diana Winch with a cheque for £500 at the opening last Tuesday.

She said: "We're delighted to support Age UK Milton Keynes as it does fantastic work for those living in Woburn Sands and wider MK.

Training ground decision upheld

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

COUNCIL watchdogs have upheld a decision to sell off land that could fund a new training ground for MK Dons.

This newspaper has previously reported how Milton Keynes Council's cabinet sold a section of Tickford Fields Farm in Newport Pagnell for £2.03million to property consortium InterMK, which is headed by Dons' chairman Pete Winkelman.

Any increase in the land's value would be split between the council and InterMK – with the latter having to use any additional proceeds to fund a training base in the city.

But 20 residents in Bradville questioned the decision, believing the land has been undervalued.

At the meeting of the council's executive scrutiny panel on Thursday, leader of the authority, Andrew Geary, offered to have the land revalued and seek further legal clarification about 'state aid' – whether InterMK had been given an advantage over competitors – and said he was 'pleased' the decision was upheld.

He added the deal ticked 'all the boxes' and that it would 'further the council's corporate priorities'.

Mr Winkelman told MK NEWS: "I welcome this conclusion and we will respect it moving forward."

Share your views on this: www.mkweb.co.uk

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Hackney drivers' joy at licence cap

BY SCOTT KIRK AND JESSICA DUNCAN
editor@mk-news.co.uk

DELIGHTED Hackney Carriage drivers whooped for joy at a Milton Keynes Council meeting when a decision to cap the number of licences was made on Thursday night.

About 100 people packed into the public gallery at the meeting after drivers fought for 11 years to limit the number of people allowed to operate in the city.

They wanted the industry regulated due to the decreasing amount of customers at ranks and increased competition after Milton Keynes councillors decided in 2002 to allow anybody to become a Hackney Carriage driver.

The council's regulatory committee decided to cap the number of drivers last month, but councillors Andy Dransfield and Cec Tallack made motions to overturn the decision on Thursday, which were thrown out in a vote of 29 to 14.

Peter Kirkham, executive chairman of the Milton Keynes Hackney Carriage Association 2011, said: "We're very pleased with the decision – it's just a shame that it has taken 11 years to get there."

The council meeting heard from several drivers who said Milton Keynes Central train station was the only good place for business and some drivers were left with just £15 after working for 15 hours.

Happy: Peter Kirkham with other Hackney Carriage drivers

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

- Hackney Carriages can pick passengers up from taxi ranks, whereas private taxis are not allowed to
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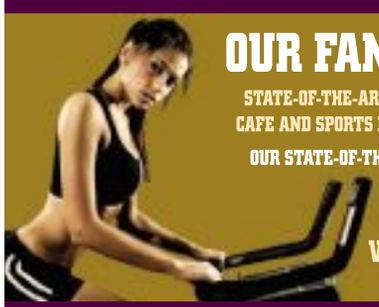

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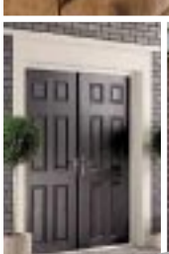

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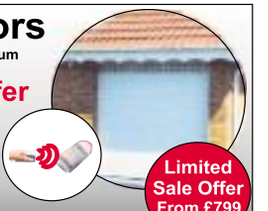

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Launch: Iain Stewart and Mark Lancaster join Councillor Edith Bald at the opening of the MK Community Bank

MPs help launch community bank

MARK Lancaster and Iain Stewart helped launch the new MK Community Bank on Friday.

The bank – a branch of the Swan Credit Union – is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned and run by its members. Both MPs expressed their hope that the bank would provide an alternative option to payday loan companies for vulnerable residents. Mr Lancaster said he would 'encourage everyone to join'.

Man fined over moon bomb call

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A MAN has been fined by magistrates after threatening to blow up Milton Keynes Central train station 'from the moon'.

Paul Blatchford had warned British Transport Police in Milton Keynes that he planned to blow the station up after reading a statement relating to a previous incident there, becoming angry as he tried to explain it over the telephone to the operator. But his empty threat was an attempt to get himself arrested, the court in Truro heard on Friday.

Blatchford suffered from a mental disorder and Gail Hawkley from the Crown Prosecution Service said the 39-year-old wanted to know what he could do to be arrested and sent to prison.

He said several times he wanted to blow up the station to get arrested and if he was not taken then he would commit more offences.

Blatchford, from Newquay, had pleaded guilty to making the calls – on July 16 last year – and breaching a conditional discharge imposed for two offences of battery.

Magistrates fined him £40 for making the threatening telephone call and ordered him to pay £60 costs and a £20 victim surcharge.

He also had his conditional discharge revoked and was fined £35 for each of the two battery offences.

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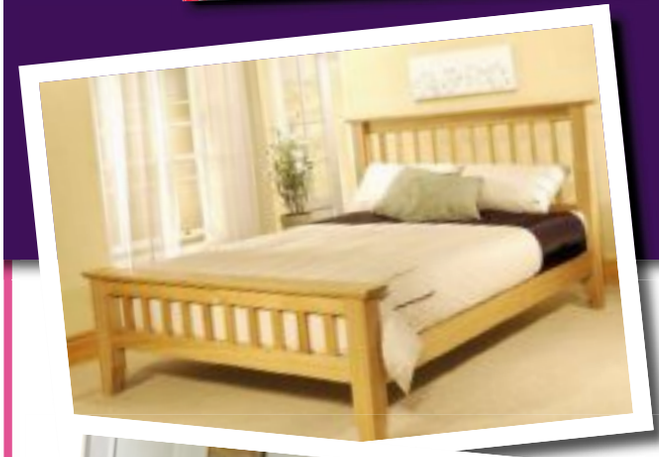

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Blaze at warehouse

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

THE fire service received more than 70 emergency calls within minutes of a warehouse fire breaking out, which caused a huge plume of black smoke to be seen as far away as Bedford and Northampton.

Picture by Douglas McCall

The blaze – which led to the highest number of calls to firefighters in recent years – started in a Liebherr building run by Coolectric that contained about 7,000 gas filled fridges in Renny Park Road, Newport Pagnell, next to a row of houses.

Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service has carried out an investigation into the cause of the fire, which it has concluded was started accidentally.

Group manager Steve Wells said: "The report will be shared with the company and its insurers."

The fire caused 100 per cent damage to the building and melted the whole of one side.

Everyone inside the building escaped unhurt from the fire on Wednesday last week.

Councillor Douglas McCall, who lives next door to the site in Hopton Drive, said: "I looked out of the window and saw smoke billowing up into the sky. I saw lots of people running out and one person said the fire started from a light bulb."

Nearby residents were left without water until the following day as the 60 firefighters used all that was available to put out the flames, which took more than three hours.

Jo Livesey-Kilshaw saw the smoke from her Volkswagen office in Blakelands.

She said: "It was pretty bad, we could see the flames flickering up. I went past it the next day and the building had just melted away."

Cllr McCall said that many questions had been raised by the blaze. He added: "Should houses be built so close to warehouses like these?

"Luckily the wind was going the right way, but if it was blowing towards the houses that were only a small road away a whole row of them could have been affected."

The Environment Agency and Anglian Water have confirmed that no environmental affects or water pollution have been caused by the fire.

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MK – Heathrow (T1-T5)	£65	£75	£85	£130
MK – Stansted	£70	£80	£90	£130
MK – East Midlands	£70	£80	£90	£130
MK – St Pancras (Eurostar)	£75	£90	£100	£140
MK – London City	£75	£90	£100	£140
MK – Gatwick	£95	£110	£120	£170
MK – Southampton Cruise	£130	£150	£170	£220

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View from Tickford Street in Newport Pagnell as the plume of thick black smoke is blown north

FIRE TIMELINE

- The fire started just before 2pm last Wednesday
- Sixty firefighters from Milton Keynes and Bedford arrived at the scene minutes later.
- Shortly after police closed three surrounding roads until after 10pm and residents were advised to close windows and doors.
- By 5.14pm the fire was under control.

The scene of the fire the next morning showing the melted building

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Advertisement Feature

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We hear how one couple found a way of turning bricks and mortar into money in the bank with a cash purchase from webuyanyhome.com

Paul and Lesley Henderson, a retired engineer and his wife, turned to webuyanyhome.com earlier this year. They found themselves in a difficult situation, and needed to quickly turn the value in their home, into ready cash.

Paul Henderson takes up the story: "Our circumstances changed really fast, for various reasons, and we needed to get our hands on a certain amount of money as quickly as we could. We knew we didn't stand a chance with the usual finance options, but we were luckier than some because we knew we had money in the house.

"But just trying to sell it like you usually would wasn't an option. For a start, there's all the hassle of dealing with estate agents, which can be a

right pain. And then there's the time it takes, I think you're lucky to sell in six months these days."

Lesley continues: "We couldn't afford to take six weeks, never mind six months, so we were happy to listen when we heard about webuyanyhome.com.

"We got a figure for a cash payment offered the same day we called them– a bit less than the market rate, but we expected that – and someone came out to see the house the day after. All nice and friendly, they explained everything, and they told us they'd help us to find a solicitor and pay all the legal fees – that's the deal.

"Four weeks later, there was the cash sitting in the bank. I can't tell you how relieved we were to be free of all the pressure and worry, and now we've got everything sorted out.

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Mess: A picture sent in by worried Wolverton resident Louisa King showing rubbish caught in the parkland's fence line where dog owners walk. Other pictures showed rubbish hanging from trees

Worries over waste

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

CONCERNED residents have sent pictures to MK NEWS because rubbish from a recycling plant continues to spread into the neighbouring country park.

Plastic bags, crisp packets and other mess is blown by strong winds from Old Wolverton Viridor, a recycling facility owned by Milton Keynes Council, to the surrounding areas of Ouse Valley Park.

The land is owned by The Parks Trust, which is currently developing the area into a floodplain forest with ponds that will house a range of plants, insects, fish and more.

Members of the community who use the land are worried this wildlife could become trapped in the rubbish and that it could spread to other areas in the river.

Collin Adams, 52, from Wolverton, walks his dogs in the area and has complained about the rubbish for years.

He said: "All it takes is a gust of wind and rubbish flies over the fences. It goes everywhere and it won't take long for the new ponds to get polluted."

A spokesman from The Parks Trust said: "Blustery weather can cause litter from our neighbours to be blown onto the parkland and we'll always let them know so that they can help clear it."

A Viridor spokesman added: "We undertake all our operations with respect for the environment and to the protection of amenities. We are in the process of moving all loose materials away from the outdoor storage bay to minimise it escaping. We will continue to carry out regular checks of the parkland, removing litter where found."

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'Rates need to be cut for businesses'

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

Share your views on this: www.mkweb.co.uk

Glass act: Biochem owner Will Fludgate gives a demonstration to Emily Darlington, Toby Perkins MP and Andrew Pakes

A BUSINESS owner says rates need to be cut to help firms flourish in the area.

Will Fludgate, owner of glass-blowing company Biochem in Barton Road, Bletchley, said firms are struggling to start up in the city because of high business rates and he wants to see them reduced.

"If I was a big company I wouldn't be worried about an increase in rates because they're swallowed up, but somebody like me doesn't see anything more for the extra money I'm paying.

"I see these business rates as a burden and what's probably holding businesses back are things like worrying about rates."

Mr Fludgate's comments come after Toby Perkins, the Shadow Small and Medium Enterprise Minister, visited small firms as part of a campaign to cut business rates.

The MP said: "Milton Keynes has that entrepreneurial spirit. It's a huge growth city, so we need to make that growth work."

Andrew Pakes, Labour and Co-operative parliamentary candidate for Milton Keynes South, said: "We have some amazing small businesses and start-up firms across Milton Keynes but they need a government on their side.

"Too often people forget that businesses are hit by rising costs in just the same way as families.

"It is great having Toby here to meet business leaders."

The shadow minister also visited MK:Two in the Barton Road industrial estate and held a Q&A session with small business leaders.

Emily Darlington, a former business owner and Labour's candidate in Milton Keynes North, said: "As someone who used to run a small business, I know it isn't just about your own determination to succeed but also the economic climate created by the council and the Government."

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600 city potholes need 'urgent care'

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

MORE than 600 potholes need 'urgent repair' across the city, according to one councillor.

At a recent meeting of Milton Keynes Council's audit committee, Councillor Nigel Long was told there are 635 potholes with priority status, which means they need immediate attention because of their depth.

Cllr Long said: "We are not getting the full picture. These 635 need urgent care but how many potholes not in this category are still outstanding?"

Last week Milton Keynes Council announced it received 74 per cent fewer claims for pothole damage from August to November compared to the same period the previous year – its lowest since 2006.

Cllr Long added: "The weather has not been as bad and people aren't claiming as they are not seeing results."

The council declined to comment until its new report is published soon.

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Man's best friend: Alan Bray shows off his trophy and his winning pooch Indie

Alan is top dog at show

A LEADENHALL man and his faithful border collie have won an agility award in a national contest.

Four-year-old Indie helped owner Alan Bray, 56, to the title in the Large Agility Stakes final at the Kennel Club Olympia.

Alan called it 'a huge honour' and added: "Indie was the first born of our Upanova dog agility line through my late wife Jayne Bray who we sadly lost to cancer last October.

"Olympia was her favourite and she would be very proud."

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Andy wants to build a better community

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

AN ENTREPRENEUR has set up an ambitious project to encourage residents to become more active in their community.

The Snowball Effect, set up by Andy Evans, 32, from Stony Stratford, aims to inspire people to change the city 'one step at a time'.

The project hopes to help residents who have ideas on how to improve their area turn them into reality through support and funding.

The project will pay participants a salary enabling them to take a year out to launch their plans.

Mr Evans said: "The idea of this project is to raise money to be able to sponsor people in the community to make their ideas a reality.

"Milton Keynes has some unique challenges, with a lot of new estates some areas can be really divided and we need to establish a sense of community and hopefully make MK a better place.

"When one project, like developing a playground, is successful in one area then other people in other places may be inspired to do the same, creating the snowball effect."

Hoping for change: *From left*: Andrew Wood from the Church of Christ the Cornerstone, Andy Evans, founder of the Snowball Effect, and Sarah Marelli from Age UK Milton Keynes

Another aspect of the Snowball Effect is encouraging residents to help the community by volunteering to help a charity for four hours a month.

Mr Evans will be holding a Volunteer and Careers Fair to explain more about both aspects of the project and its future aims.

Eight charities, including Willen Hospice, Thames Valley Victim Support and Age UK Milton Keynes, have already signed up to attend the event to talk about how residents can volunteer with them.

The fair will be held at the Church of Christ the Cornerstone on Friday, January 31 from 11.30am.

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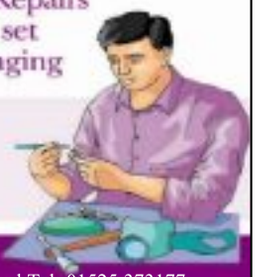

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Smart city praise for MK from PM

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

THE Prime Minister has given special praise to Milton Keynes' Smart City Forum, run by the Open University.

MK is one of only five cities across the UK that is on the forum, which was launched late last year.

The aim of it is to help the UK's metropolitan hubs harness intelligent technology to learn about and manage resources such as energy, water, street lighting and transport capacity.

The praise from David Cameron came in last Wednesday's Prime Minister's Questions when MP for Milton Keynes South, Iain Stewart, raised the subject of the innovative economy of the city and the forum itself.

Responding to Mr Stewart, the Prime Minister said: "I congratulate Milton Keynes for its representation on the Smart City Forum and for what the Open University is doing.

"I visited the Open University at Milton Keynes and it is an impressive organisation and is also leading a very important export drive in terms of our universities.

"I think there are many opportunities for Milton Keynes, not least provided by HS2 as well, and I look forward to discussing them with him [Mr Stewart] in the future."

Putting MK in the spotlight: Iain Stewart and David Cameron

It is the second time the PM has praised MK recently.

During Prime Minister's Questions just one week earlier he praised Bletchley Park's female workers – and Alan Turing – for their war effort, saying: "There is no doubt that the work of Mr Turing and others at Bletchley Park was instrumental in winning the war."

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LOVE MK

Best foot forward: Supershoes founder Sarah White with one of the personalised pairs of shoes that are about to be sent to help cheer up a youngster who is ill or disabled

Smiles are sole aim

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A CITY charity is taking steps to cheer up children who are suffering from serious illnesses or disabilities.

Supershoes, which is run by Sarah White from her home in Woburn Sands, creates personally designed Converse footwear for youngsters across the UK.

After getting to know the child, one of the charity's team of 50 professional artists designs the shoes, with previous creations including Supermario and Disney princesses. And the end result is a surprise for the recipient, which Sarah hopes will make them smile.

She said: "Supershoes reminds the children of who they are despite their illness or disability.

"I have met some really amazing souls who have so much courage.

"One boy with leukaemia hadn't been out of his hospital bed for a while, but when his shoes arrived he got up, got dressed and went around showing off his shoes.

"Our future aim is to reach as many children as possible to make them smile."

The personalised shoes cost £50 a pair with the artists volunteering their time.

So far Supershoes has given out 21 pairs – three of them to children in Milton Keynes.

They are paid for by other charities like Amelia-Mae Davies Neuroblastoma Foundation and some city businesses such as Frosts Landscapes, Talk Social and Bridgman and Bridgman.

The charity is looking for other organisations to sponsor shoes.

Anyone interested can email sarah@supershoes.org.uk

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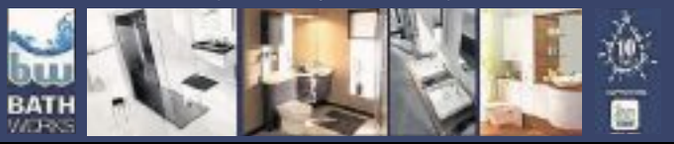
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City volunteers pick up national awards

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

TWO 'inspirational' men from the city have been rewarded for their dedication to their community with awards.

Musician Emmanuel (Manny) Ademolu and youth worker Matthew Seabrook have been presented with vInspired National Awards that celebrate the achievements of volunteers.

Songwriter Manny, 21, from Shenley Brook End, started volunteering with Make A Difference (MAD) after leaving sixth form, running music, crafts and sports activities and performing gigs for the homeless.

Having been low on confidence himself before becoming a volunteer, Manny, who was crowned regional winner for the South East in the All Round Commitment to Volunteering category, said: "I don't volunteer for recognition, helping people is enough motivation. But it's great to know people appreciate it.

"Volunteering has given me loads more confidence and really helped me to improve my outlook on life."

Meanwhile, Matthew 39, from Bletchley, has been named regional winner for the South East in the Outstanding Contribution by a Youth Worker category.

Matthew, *left*, has been a St John Ambulance volunteer for more than 30 years and trains and supports young members. He started volunteering at the age of eight, and 'relishes' seeing young people 'grow and blossom.'

Inspirational: City songwriter Emmanuel Ademolu, 21, says helping people is 'enough motivation' for volunteering

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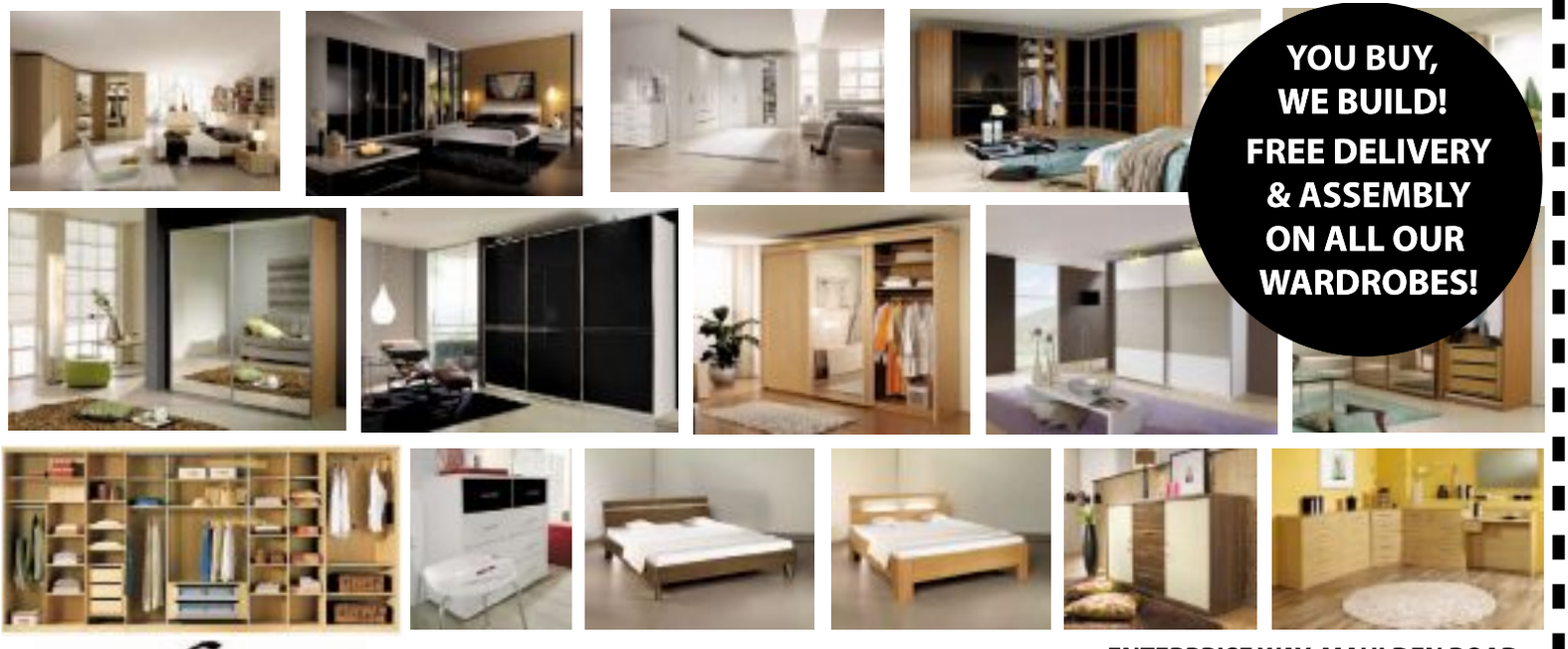
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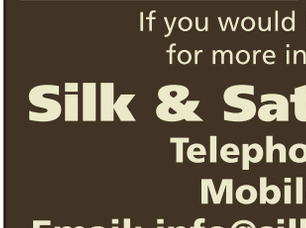

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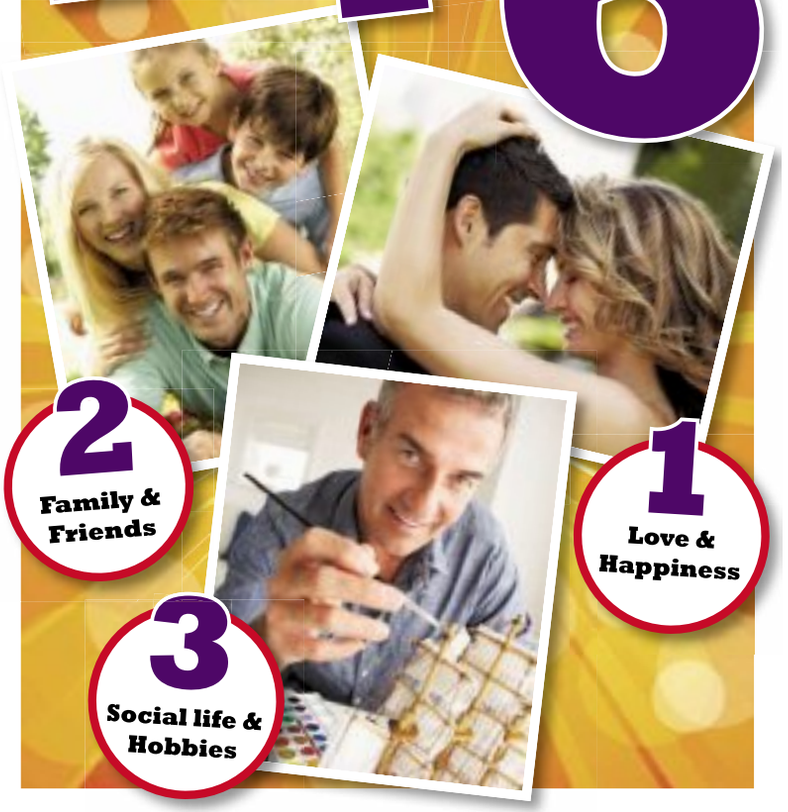

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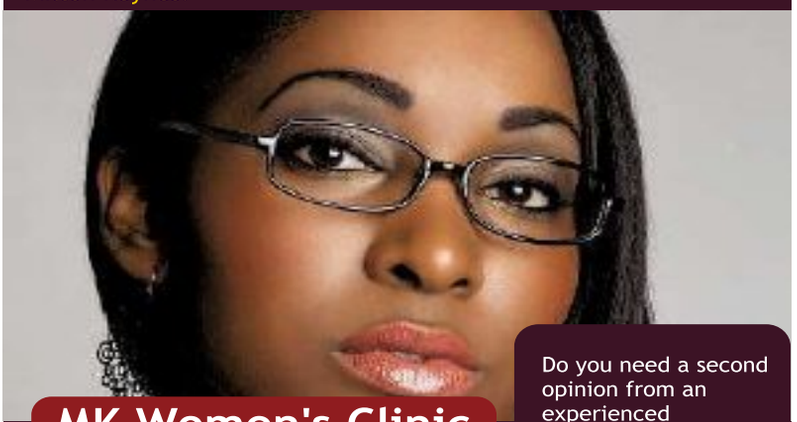

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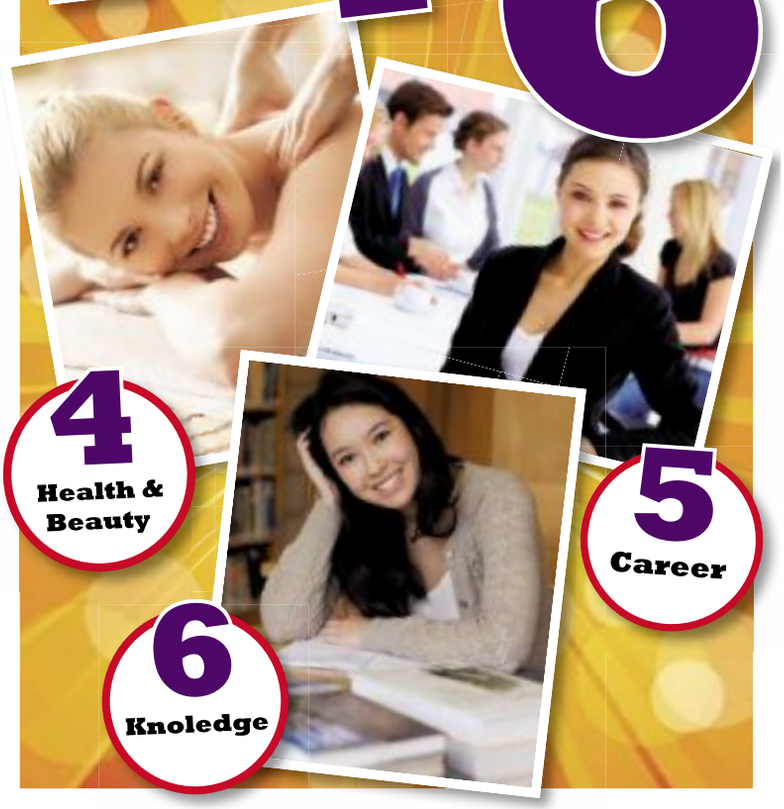

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Sonya Hawkins, Customer Relations Manager (left), Marcia Gomez (Managing Director, middle), Jennifer Ellison (Right)

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Jennifer Ellison at Cotels:

"It has been great here, there is fantastic service and I have stayed with them before during Legally Blonde. It's lovely for the family to stay the night by the theatre. My husband and kids are staying here and they love it, my son calls it his Milton Keynes flat. I love them being so close to me, I can just nip back between shows to see them.
It's not nice being away from home but the standard of it really makes a difference, staying in a nice, clean and lovely place.
I definitely would recommend it highly to all my friends and family."

01908 802 853 | www.cotels.co.uk

Ugandan choir set to inspire audiences

A UGANDAN choir that has performed for the Queen and at the House of Commons is coming to Milton Keynes this week.

The Watoto Choir, made up of orphans and ex-child soldiers, tours the world inspiring audiences with its dancing and music.

From Watoto village in the Ugandan capital Kampala, the members, many of whom are new to the group, will be staying with host families while they are in MK, who will be showing them around the city.

Their vibrant performance will include traditional songs, dances and costumes.

Audiences of all ages will enjoy the two free performances at St Mary's Church in Bletchley on Sunday at 6pm and Olney Baptist Church on Tuesday at 6.30pm.

A collection will be made at both of the shows with all funds going to the group. A variety of African items will also be on sale.

■ To find out more about the Watoto Choir visit www.mkweb.co.uk

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John's Gospel is written with the declared purpose "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this, you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). John's Gospel is a literary and theological masterpiece, yet for some people it can appear too abstract and spiritual for them to understand. This introductory talk to the Gospel of John outlines the vision of life that is offered and highlights some of the major themes that make up the beauty and simplicity of John's message.

7.00pm Monday 20th January 2014
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Sunday 26 January, 8pm SNAKECHARMER
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Tickets £19.50 & £21.50

Thursday 30 January, 8pm CHRIS DEAN'S SYD LAWRENCE ORCHESTRA
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thattime

NORWEGIAN comedian Daniel Simonsen and Welsh act Matt Rees will be performing at That Time Of The Month Comedy Club in Newport Pagnell.

Chortle Award nominee Rees, **pictured below right,** cites Sean Lock, Dara O'Briain and Jack Dee as his influences.

He has been nominated and won numerous awards, including Welsh Unsigned Stand-up Award, Loaded Laftas New Act of the Year, Leicester Mercury Comedian of the Year and Chortle Best Newcomer.

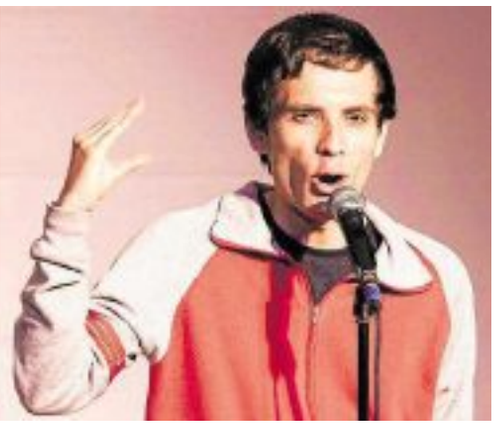
Simonsen, **below left**, began performing in Norway in 2004 and was crowned Foster's Edinburgh Comedy Award winner for best newcomer in 2012.

His show Champions received rave reviews two years ago, and as well as taking part on BBC Three's Russell Howard's Good News, Simonsen supported Simon Anstell on his UK tour in the same year.

The Scandanavian comedian is currently appearing alongside Shooting Stars' creators Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer in BBC Two's House of Fools, starring as Erik, which has been filmed in front of an audience of 260 people for each episode.

The gig at the Cannon, in Newport Pagnell's High Street, begins at 7pm on Sunday, February 2.

Go to www.wegottickets.com to book your place at the gig, which costs £5.50 per person.



filmreview

WE KNOW about the cruelties of slavery but nothing has shown the true horror through such raw emotion like 12 Years a Slave.

Chiwetel Ejiofor stars as Solomon Northup, a free man who was kidnapped and sold into slavery in the 1840s. Based on a shocking true story, Steve McQueen directs with pin point accuracy to give an honest account based on Solomon's memoir.

Ejiofor's magnificent performance is enough to keep you enthralled as we witness his loss of free will. He holds every scene with integrity to deliver an emotionally charged performance worthy of his Oscar nomination.

Bletchley Park star Benedict Cumberbatch brings a quiet calm to his role as Solomon's first master William Ford, a relatively compassionate plantation owner, who constantly struggles with how he must treat his slaves.

Michael Fassbender is excellent as the sadistic plantation owner Edwin Epps, who is not only formidably violent but unpredictable. He evokes tension in every scene keeping us in painful suspense, not sure of what cruelty he will inflict next.

McQueen's use of continuous shots of such cruelty is very hard to grasp, with no escape route as we are forced to endure as Solomon is.

12 Years a Slave triumphs as it takes you into Solomon's world, remaining true to his own emotional and provoking words throughout.

Rachael West

★★★★★

online for all the latest cinema times visit mkweb.co.uk

chairexhibition

MILTON Keynes Arts Centre opens a new free exhibition that will have you on the edge of your seat.

We Designed Chairs runs until February 1 and shows the work of eight artists approached to begin a conversation around the design and construction of a a chair. Each artist had creative freedom to develop their ideas to create an object. The centre in Parklands, Great Linford, is open Monday to Saturday from 10am-4pm. For more call 01908 608108.

sporttickets

MILTON Keynes will soon be playing host to one of the most prestigious badminton events.

And MK LIFE has teamed up with Badminton England to offer five lucky readers the chance to win a pair of tickets, as well as some top-of-the-range badminton equipment so you can look, and maybe play, like the professionals.

You'll be able to see the best in the country, such as 2013 doubles winners Gabby White and Lauren Smith, **pictured above**, play when the English National Badminton Championships arrive in Milton Keynes from February 8-9. Tickets are now on sale, starting at just £11, for this great event, which is being held at the arena:stadiummk.

But if you score an ace in our competition then you'll be heading along for free!

The annual championships will be the first major sporting event to be held at the new arena, at the home of MK Dons.

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer the following question:

At which football club's home will the English National Badminton Championships be held in February?

A) MK Dons B) Luton Town C) Oxford United D) Yeovil

For more information and to buy tickets go to www.nationalbadmintonchamps.co.uk or call the box office on 0844 902 7777.

There will also be free parking at the stadium on both days.

To enter visit www.mkweb.co.uk/competitions Alternatively, you can send your answer, name, address and daytime phone number to MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU by noon on Wednesday, January 29. The editor's decision is final

CAYLIN Gans works in The Parks Trust's education team and as well as helping schools learn about the environment, she also looks after the adult education programme. In this column for MK LIFE she points you in the direction of a variety of activities in 2014.

THROUGHOUT the year we run short courses where you can learn a practical skill, find out about plants and wildlife in our parks or, perhaps, indulge your creative side.

Sometimes we take a fresh look at a familiar subject and a great example of this is our Drawing the Landscape course on February 22 at Campbell Park. You won't just be creating pictures; you'll learn how to actually make materials for drawing and painting using things like clay and wood to produce your own paints and dyes.

Early risers definitely shouldn't miss our Dawn Chorus session on May 4 where from 5.30am we'll be watching and listening to the birds as they stir in magical Howe Park Wood. Howe Park is home to a variety of wildlife and boasts more than 200 plant species, some so rare that English Nature has designated it a Site of Special Scientific Interest for its wildlife value. There should be plenty to explore.

In May there's a session on identifying the trees and landscape in the Ouzel Valley, followed by discovering wildflowers in June and finding out about moths and bats in July.

Our autumn courses on cider and apple juice making, fungi, hedgelaying and Christmas wreath making are some of our most popular. These tend to get booked up very early every year so please don't miss out! I hope I've whet your appetite to discover more about our short courses.

snakecharmer

FORMED by six of the UK's most highly-esteemed and experienced rock musicians, Snakecharmer was brought together by original Whitesnake members offering twin-guitar based rock the way it's meant to be played.

Snake's original guitarist Micky Moody and bassist Neil Murray are joined by ex-Wishbone Ash guitarist Laurie Wisefield, Thunder and Magnum drummer Harry James, Ozzy Osbourne's keyboardist Adam Wakeman and Chris Ousey (Heartland) on lead vocals.

With a live set comprising material from their critically-acclaimed Snakecharmer album, coupled with Whitesnake classics such as Walking In The Shadow Of The Blues and Here I Go Again, Snakecharmer will give you an evening of rock to remember.

The group play at The Stables on Sunday at 8pm and tickets cost from £19.50 from www.stables.org

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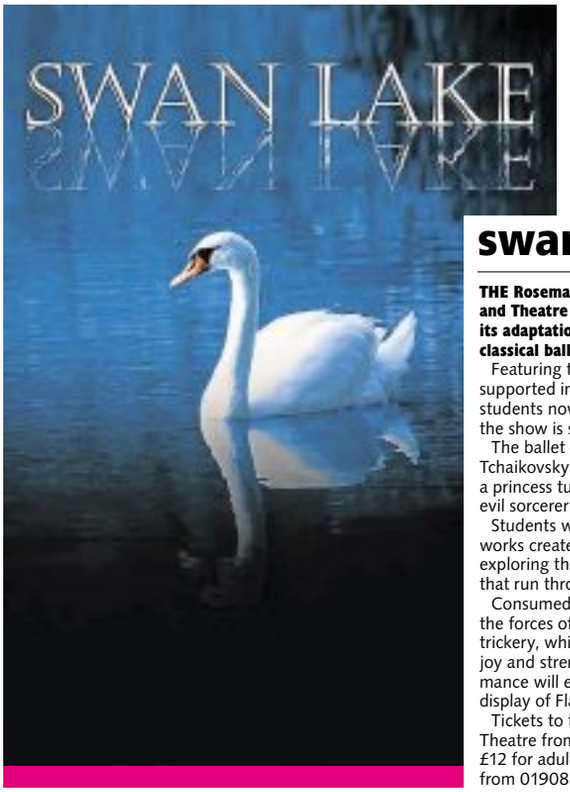

swandance

THE Rosemary Lane School of Ballet and Theatre Dance will be performing its adaptation of the enchanting classical ballet Swan Lake.

Featuring talented city children and supported in principal roles by past students now in professional training, the show is set to inspire audiences.

The ballet composed by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky tells the story of Odette, a princess turned into a swan by an evil sorcerer's curse.

Students will also present two new works created by Nicola Daniels exploring the struggles and emotions that run through Swan Lake.

Consumed by Darkness expresses the forces of darkness, deceit and trickery, while Freedom displays the joy and strength of love. The performance will end with a flamboyant display of Flamenco.

Tickets to the show, at Stantonbury Theatre from Friday until Sunday, cost £12 for adults and £8 for children from 01908 324466.

fridayfilm

A PERVERT'S Guide to Ideology is the Friday film being shown at MK Gallery.

Cultural theorist Slavoj Žižek reunites with director Sophie Fiennes for another wildly entertaining romp through the crossroads of cinema and philosophy.

In the documentary, certificate 15, he explores themes such as hidden Catholic ideologies in The Sound Of Music, among others.

Tickets for the 7pm showing cost £5 and can be pre-booked by calling 01908 676900.

jackreacher

I AM a massive fan of the Jack Reacher books and have read every single one since the first novel Killing Floor in 1999.

I love Lee Child's style of writing. Simplistic to a large extent, the way he writes is very much unique – a word which is often overused but very apt in this case.

I find that I rattle through the pages very quickly because his writing style, as much as the plot itself, is so absorbing.

I've done about 200 pages in the last week (I'm a slow reader and this is quite a lot for me!) and I can't put it down.

For those of you not in the know about Reacher, he's a six foot plus former military policeman turned drifter, with a keen sense of right and wrong.

He carries only a toothbrush and an ATM card and is like a much rougher version of James Bond – without the suaveness. He's easily the most intriguing fictional character I've read about.

Anybody out there who is a fan of the old school anti-hero should definitely give Reacher a chance because the books have provided me with hours of entertainment.

Scott Kirk

online to read more leisure news log onto mkweb.co.uk/leisure

Your essential guide to events big and small throughout Milton Keynes

MKlifeHOTPICKS

stonywords

STONY Words' 10th Annual Festival continues with its second week of events.

The week includes a Burns Night Supper, Scala Film Night and much more. The big finale will be a free evening of international storytelling at The Crown on Friday, January 31 from 7.30pm, where audiences can enjoy poets and writers like Yaw Asiyama, **pictured above**. See more at www.mkweb.co.uk

chasingice

MOVIE-GOERS in Milton Keynes can experience a chilling encounter with melting glaciers at a free showing of the Oscar-nominated documentary Chasing Ice.

The screening will take place at the Chrysalis Theatre at 2.15pm on Sunday.

Places are limited and can be reserved by calling 01908 361500

got an exciting event?
email editor@mk-news.co.uk
see our online gig guide
www.mkweb.co.uk

stevegifford

STEVE Gifford returns with the launch of his fifth studio album Beaudesert, The Beautiful Wilderness.

Having spent the summer performing at festivals including Wychwood and Ashley Wood, he returns to perform at the venue nearest to his Bedfordshire home.

Steve will be playing his folk, rock and country music at The Stables on Friday at 8.45pm.

Tickets cost £12 and can be bought from www.stables.org or by calling 01908 280800.

ladylove

CELEBRATE Valentine's Day by turning your love around with a George Benson tribute act.

The UK's official tribute, who has the blessing of the legend himself, never fails to get audiences Breezin.

The event is at Wilton Hall featuring the classic hits Give Me The Night, In Your Eyes, Love X Love and Lady Love Me (One More Time). Tickets to the show, on Friday February 14 from 7pm, cost £23 from 01908 372277.

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MK – Stansted	£70	£80	£90	£130
MK – East Midlands	£70	£80	£90	£130
MK – St Pancras (Eurostar)	£75	£90	£100	£140
MK – London City	£75	£90	£100	£140
MK – Gatwick	£95	£110	£120	£170
MK – Southampton Cruise	£130	£150	£170	£220

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PROPERTY NEWS

Wednesday, January 22, 2014

Woburn Sands

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The property has good size mature rear gardens with a driveway leading to parking to front and rear of house and a single garage. It is located close to Woburn Sands' High Street, which offers shops, restaurants and public houses.

Accommodation in the main house comprises an entrance hall, three reception rooms, fitted kitchen, utility room, cloakroom, en-suite shower room, box room and family bathroom. It also has double glazed Anderson sash windows, gas central heating and an alarm.

Formally The Rope Works, the separate building has been converted to comprise a games room/office, self-contained ground floor annexe garden flat and self-contained annexe cottage built in 1910.

Full colour details of the property, on the market for £850,000, are available at www.beasley-partners.co.uk.

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ESTATE AGENTS
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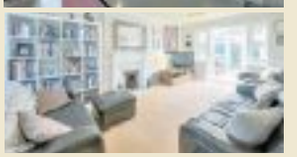
Monkston

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Double Detached Garage
- Generous Rear Garden

A very well presented detached home in the popular area of Monkston. This extended property comprises kitchen/family room, lounge, dining room, conservatory, utility, cloakroom. Upstairs there are five bedrooms, two en-suites and a family bathroom.

£425,000



Great Linford

- Stunning Setting
- Six Bedroom Detached Property
- Overlooking Parkland
- Village Location
- Versatile Accommodation
- Two En-Suites

Stunning six bedroom detached cottage in the sought after Great Linford area. Looking over open parkland and set in the picturesque old village, this wonderful home offers a wealth of character and flexible living space. Includes a well presented landscaped garden.

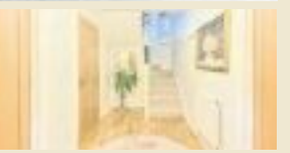
£415,000

Monkston Park

- Four Bedrooms
- Detached Property
- Lounge & Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Two Bathrooms
- Popular Location
- Front & Rear Gardens

An extremely well presented four bedroom detached family home located in the popular Monkston Park area. Close to open parkland and offering light, spacious accommodation. An early viewing is highly recommended.

£399,999



Medbourne

- Detached Property
- Six Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Two En-suites
- Garage
- Garden

Very well presented six bedroom detached property built by Amberley Homes in the popular location of Medbourne, offering flexible living accommodation and a generous lounge.

£380,000

propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk PrimeLocation.com

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Moulsoe

- Beautiful Thatched Cottage
- Village Location
- South Facing Rear Garden with Views
- Period Charm with Modern Facilities
- Oil Fired Central Heating
- Mains Drainage

Wonderfully presented four/five bed character thatched cottage situated on a plot of approximately 0.5 an acre, set well back from Cranfield Road in the highly sought after village of Moulsoe, close to Milton Keynes with excellent travel links to London.

£950,000

Water Eaton

- Grade II Listed Converted Watermill
- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Breakfast Room
- Conservatory
- Double Garage

An exceptional Grade II Listed converted watermill dating back to the 1700's situated within a stunning plot of around 0.75 of an acre. There is countryside out to the side and rear towards and beyond the Great River Ouzel and the Grand Union Canal.

£875,000

New Bradwell

- Individual Design
- High Specification
- Large Plot
- Small Gated Development
- Five Double Bedrooms
- Three En-Suites

An individually designed property located on a small gated development that has been built to the highest specification and with imagination and family living in mind.

£725,000

Sherington

- 300 Year Old Barn Conversion
- Two En-Suites
- Half Acre Garden
- Four Bedrooms
- Self Contained Annexe
- Double Garage

Delightful 300 year old barn conversion with half an acre garden and a detached annexe in the highly sought after location of Sherington Bridge. Formally part of the Chicheley Estate the Barn retains many of its original features and has been developed to a high standard.

£690,000

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Loughton

- Detached Georgian Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Five Reception Rooms
- Four Bathrooms
- Garden
- Garage
- Parking

An exceptional Georgian style property available for sale in the very popular location of 'Loughton'. This sizeable family home has a very large and private back garden and also boasts a double garage and parking.

£700,000

Hanslope

- Period Cottage
- Four Bedrooms
- Character Features
- Tudor Fireplaces
- Office/Playroom
- Mature Garden
- Off Road Parking
- Garage

A wonderful four bedroom stone built period cottage, offering spacious accommodation and superb character features including tudor fireplaces and exposed beams.

£475,000

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Milton Keynes 01908 850959

ATTENTION

Urgently Required! Three Bedroom House in Two Mile Ash for Waiting Buyers.

Bradwell £265,000

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Off Road Parking

Springfield £259,995

- Detached House
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking

WANTED

Mr & Mrs H looking for 4 bedroom house in Old Farm Park. Can you help?!

Broughton £245,000

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Off Road Parking
- Semi Detached Property

Vizion £225,000

- Two Bedroom Property
- Kitchen/Lounge/Diner
- En-Suite to Master
- Private Garden

Springfield £205,000

- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Conservatory

Eaglestone £205,000

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Garden

Oldbrook £200,000

- Link Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking

Shenley Church End £189,995

- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Garden
- Off Road Parking

Oxley Park £170,000

- Split Level Duplex Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Viewing Recommended

Bradville £163,995

- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- En-Suite Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens

ATTENTION

Urgently Required! Three/four bedroom detached house in Kents Hill for waiting buyer!

PUBLIC NOTICE £70,000

Notice of Offer - 85a Penryn Avenue, Fishermead, Milton Keynes, MK6 2BG.
We advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £66,000. Any persons wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts.
Agents Address - 436 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes, MK9 2EA.
Agents Telephone Number - 01908 678151.

Neath Hill £157,000

- Three Bedroom Property
- Lounge & Kitchen/Dining Room
- Gardens
- Garage

WANTED

Mr K looking for 3 bedroom house in Middleton. Can you help?!

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Caldecotte £380,000
- Detached Property
- Living Room
- Kitchen
- Four Bedrooms

Ashland £379,995
- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Garden
- Off Road Parking

Middleton £375,000
- Detached Property/Villa
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Recepiton Rooms
- Off Road Parking

Loughton £375,000
- Detached Townhouse
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms

Two Mile Ash £349,950
- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking

Bradwell £265,000
- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Off Road Parking

Simpson £265,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Garden

Newton Leys £260,000
- Five Bedroom Townhouse
- Re-fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Three Bathrooms
- Car Port

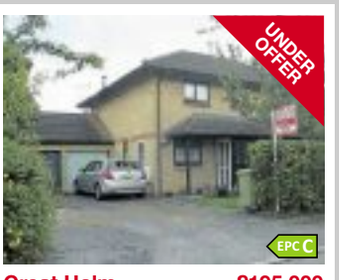
Shenley Brook End £235,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Kitchen
- Off Road Parking

Emerson Valley £227,500
- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking

Conniburrow £220,000
- Terraced Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Five Bathrooms
- Off Road Parking

Broughton £210,000
- Spacious Three Bedroom House
- Cul-de-Sac Location
- Master Bedroom En-Suite
- Off Road Parking

Eaglestone £195,995
- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Conservatory
- Rear Garden



Great Holm £195,000
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge
- Dining Room & Conservatory
- Front & Rear Garden

Willen Park £90,000
- Three Bedroom House
- Shared Ownership Scheme
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Off Road Parking

Oldbrook £45,000
- Over 55s
- One Bedroom Bungalow
- Shared Ownership Scheme
- Off Road Parking

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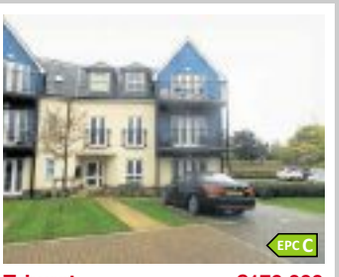
Sales & Lettings
Bletchley 01908 850949
Kingston 01908 850954

Boyce Crescent £410,000
- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Study
- Kitchen & Utility Room

Kemsley Crescent £360,000
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Off Road Parking
- Show Home Condition

Lavender Hill £237,500
- Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room



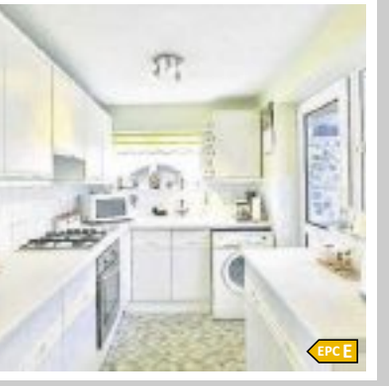
Tyhurst £170,000
- Upper Floor Flat
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner/Kitchen
- Two Bathrooms

Studley Knapp £92,500
- One Bedroom Property
- One Shower Room
- Ideal Investment or First Time Buy
- No Chain

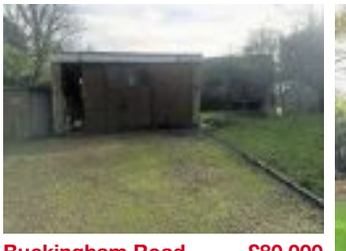
Britten Grove £42,000
- Upper Floor Apartment
- One Bedroom
- Balcony
- Shared Ownership

Renfrew Way £185,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- One Bathroom
- Gas Radiator Heating

Milton Grove £175,000
- Extended Property
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Highly Sought After Road



Kennet Drive £155,000
- Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- One Bathroom
- Double Glazing



Buckingham Road £80,000
- Plot of Land
- Rear of Buckingham Road
- Bletchley Area
- Call Branch
- For More Information

TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Westcroft Milton Keynes 01908 850984

WANTED

Are you looking to sell for the best price? Taylors registered 584 applicants this week! Call us now on 01908 524456!

Nymans Gate £379,995

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms

Oxley Park £360,000

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Four Bathrooms
- Double Garage & Gardens

WANTED

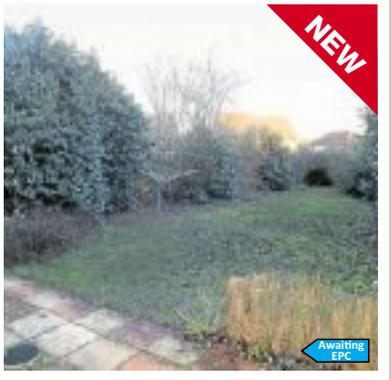
Mr R is looking for a property in Tattenhoe, Emerson Valley or Westcroft. Call 01908 524456 if you can help!

Westcroft £329,995

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Four Bathrooms

Furzton £320,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- En-Suite to Master
- Front & Rear Garden
- Garage

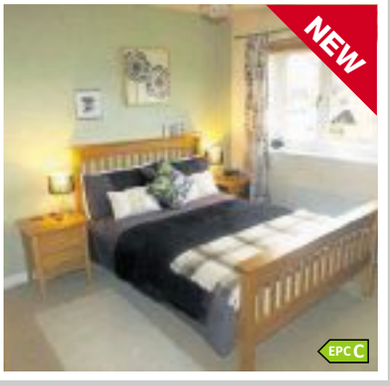


Oxley Park £225,000

- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking

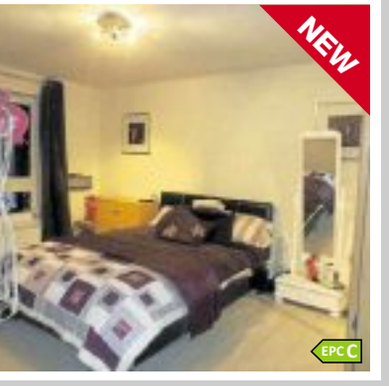
Tattenhoe £265,000

- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge
- En-Suite to Master
- Front & Rear Gardens



Oxley Park £200,000

- Second Floor Apartment
- Three Bedrooms
- Master with En-Suite
- Balcony
- Private Parking



WANTED

Mrs Y is looking for a three bedroom property in Tattenhoe. Call 01908 524456 if you can help!

Shenley Brook End £154,950

- Ground Floor Maisonette
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Gardens

Westcroft £68,500

- Two Bedroom Property
- Entrance
- Lounge
- Dining Room

WANTED

Mr S urgently requires a detached property in The Shenleys! Call 01908 524456 if you can help!

TAYLORS Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Stony Stratford 01908 850979

The Aintree £399,950

- Five Bedroom Barn Conversion
- Extensive Modernisation
- Open Plan Lounge & Dining Area
- Off Road Parking
- Garden

Mill Lane £325,000

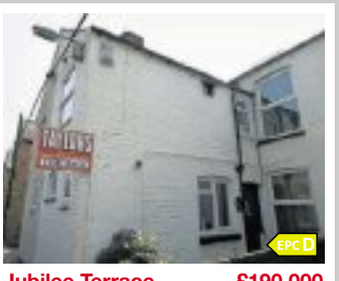
- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Lounge
- En-Suite Shower Room

Manorfields Road £350,000

- Detached Property
- Four Double Bedrooms
- En-Suite to Master
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge
- Kitchen/ Diner
- Dining Area
- Utility Room

Maltings Field £200,000

- Three Bedroom Property
- Lounge/Diner & Kitchen
- Private Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking for Two Cars



Jubilee Terrace £190,000

- Terraced Character Property
- Three Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms
- Enclosed Rear Garden

Blackwell End £180,000

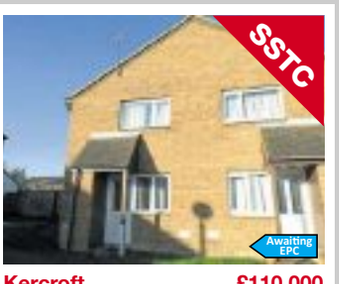
- Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Garden

Roberts Close £155,000

- Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking
- Garage

Creslow Court £120,000

- One Bedroom Maisonette
- Fully Refurbished
- Garden
- No Chain



Kercroft £110,000

- One Bedroom Property
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Communal Gardens
- Residential Parking

Bercham £100,000

- One Bedroom Maisonette
- No Upper Chain
- Investment Opportunity
- Tenant Avaliable

London Road £85,000

- Flat/Apartment
- One Bedroom
- Open Plan Living Space
- Viewing Recommended

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Sales & Lettings
Wolverton 01908 850989
Newport Pagnell 01908 850979

Hanslope **£239,995**

- Detached Thatched Cottage
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Original Exposed Beams
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Two Original Open Fireplaces
- Roof Constructed of Norfolk Reed
- Stone Built Workshop

Greenleys **£150,000**

- Terraced Property
- One Bedroom
- Kitchen/Diner
- Double Glazing
- Gas to Radiator Heating
- Resident Parking
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Well Presented

Greenleys **£175,000**

- Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedroms
- Kitchen, Dining & Sitting Rooms
- Garage

Wolverton **£140,000**

- Top Floor Duplex Apartment
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking

New Bradwell **£110,000**

- Second Floor Apartment
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Allocated Parking

WANTED

First time buyer urgently looking for a Victorian Property! Can you help? Call 01908 850989

WANTED

Family looking to relocate. Do you have a family property your looking to sell? Call 01908 850979

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Wilson Peacock estate agents

Sales & Lettings
Newport Pagnell: 01908 850999

Newport Pagnell £360,000

Four bedroom detached family home in the sought after road of Flora Thrompson Drive on the poets, the property benefits from a private location, remote double garage, en-suite and conservatory.

Newport Pagnell £325,000

Four bedroom detached family home situated in the 'Poets' area of Newport Pagnell, the property has beautiful views over bury fields and walks backing onto open parkland.

Redhouse Park £250,000

Well presented detached family home situated in the popular new development of 'Redhouse Park', the property benefits from being homely yet modern throughout.

Blakelands £345,000

Four bedroom detached family home. The property is situated in a private and exclusive location offering short walks to the lake and local amenities. Also benefits from gardens, garage and off road parking.

Giffard Park £220,000

four bedroom extended home benefiting from re-fitted kitchen, conservatory, re-fitted en suite and off road parking. Outside are gardens and carport providing off road parking.

ATTENTION!

WE SELL HOUSES FOR THE BEST PRICE!

CALL 01908 850999

WANTED

MR & MRS C ARE LOOKING FOR A THREE BEDROOM HOME IN NEWPORT PAGNELL CAN YOU HELP? CALL 01908 611388 WE URGENTLY REQUIRE MORE PROPERTIES

CALL US ON 01234 350812 TO GET YOUR PROPERTY SOLD FOR THE BEST POSSIBLE PRICE!

RYAN DANIEL
ESTATE AGENTS

01908 234111
www.ryandaniel.co.uk

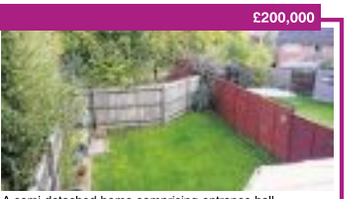
NEWPORT PAGNELL - SPACE, SPACE AND MORE SPACE!! — **REDUCED TO £310,000**

SPACE, SPACE AND MORE SPACE. An extended detached family home located on the Poets development and offered for sale with NO UPWARD CHAIN. The property boasts FOUR RECEPTIONS, FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS (master with en suite), garage and gardens and is within walking distance of shops, schools and parkland.

GREAT LINFORD — **£119,995**

SUPERB INVESTMENT OR FIRST TIME BUY. A ground floor flat with entrance hall, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, garage and garden. The property has a potential rental income of £575 pcm.

OLDBROOK - CLOSE TO CMK & THE STATION — **£200,000**



A semi detached home comprising entrance hall, kitchen/breakfast room, lounge/diner, conservatory, THREE BEDROOMS (master with en suite), bathroom, garage, gardens and off road parking. MUST BE VIEWED!!

DETACHED FAMILY HOME IN BRADWELL COMMON — **£245,000**

Located in a cul de sac, the property benefits from replacement double glazing and comprises entrance hall, cloakroom, two receptions, refitted kitchen with appliances, FOUR BEDROOMS, refitted bathroom, garage & gardens.

Ashton House, 401 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2AH

'together we're moving'

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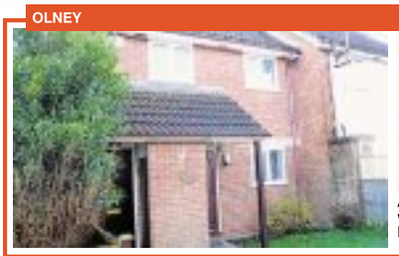
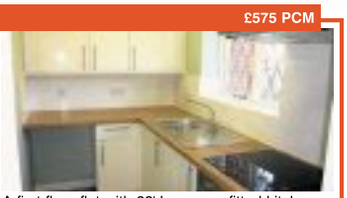
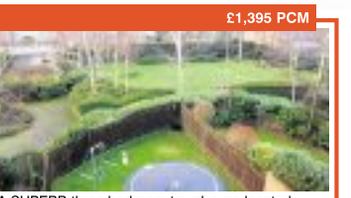
OLNEY — **£575 PCM**

A first floor flat with 22' lounge, refitted kitchen with appliances, double bedroom, refitted bathroom and allocated parking. Available now!!

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION — **£1,395 PCM**

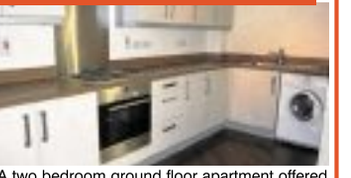


A SUPERB three bedroom townhouse located close to CMK and it's many amenities, Offered UNFURNISHED and AVAILABLE FROM 31/01/2014.

FAMILY REQUIRED!!! — **£1,350 PCM**

A detached family home on the Poets in NEWPORT PAGNELL with FOUR BEDROOMS and FOUR RECEPTIONS located close to shops and schools.

NEWPORT PAGNELL — **£725 PCM**



A two bedroom ground floor apartment offered UNFURNISHED and AVAILABLE NOW!! Rent includes gas bill. MUST BE VIEWED!!

Ashton House, 401 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2AH

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inspired Sales & Lettings

Phone - 01908 690 700
Email - info@inspiredagents.co.uk
Web - www.inspiredagents.co.uk

This stylish modern home is offered for sale with No Upper Chain and has the added benefits of a modern refitted kitchen, three reception rooms and seven double bedrooms with four bathrooms.

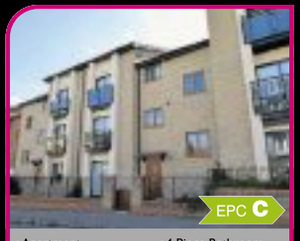
Oakhill £425,000

Freefolk Cottage is a Grade II listed thatched cottage that offers charm and is situated upon approximately 0.72 acres. Approached by a sweeping driveway the cottage provides ample accommodation and is set within delightful wrap around gardens.

Bletchley £546,500

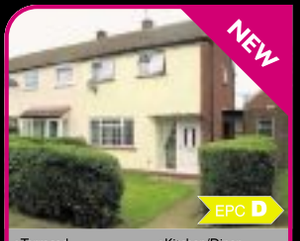
Central living at its best. This terraced house is set over four levels and has an unique layout. With a galleried dining area overlooking the lounge which has floor to second floor ceiling height windows. Viewing is essential to appreciate the layout.

Campbell Park £320,000



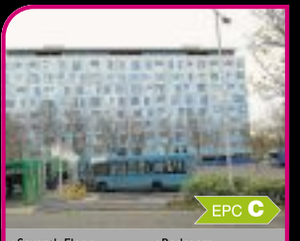
- Apartment
- Ground Floor
- Own Entrance
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- 4 Piece Bathroom
- Gated Garden
- Kitchen With Appliances

Broughton £168,000



- Terraced
- 2 Good Size Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Tenanted
- Outbuilding
- Larger Than Average

Bletchley £152,500

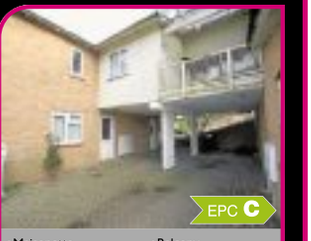


- Seventh Floor
- Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Radiator Heating
- No Above Chain

Bletchley £74,950

- Ground Floor
- Apartment
- Intercom Entry
- 2 Bedrooms
- En-Suite
- Family Bahtroom
- Open Plan Accommodtion

New Bradwell OIEO £130,000



- Maisonette
- First Floor
- 2 Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Balcony
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- No Above Chain

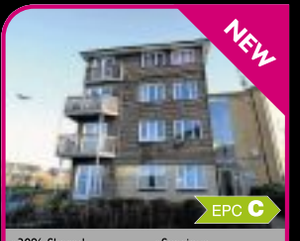
Bradwell Common £130,000

PUBLIC NOTICE

8 Roveley Court, Galley Hill, Milton Keynes MK11 1NU.
We are acting in the sale o the above property and have received an offer of £79,995. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before exchange of contracts takes place. EPC Rating C.

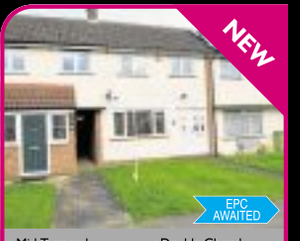
- Ground Floor
- 2 Bedrooms
- Lounge/Kitchen
- Integrated Appliances
- Bathroom
- Intercom Entry
- Parking
- No Above Chain

Kingsmead £174,995



- 30% Shared Ownership
- Second Floor
- 2 Bedrooms
- Spacious Accommodation
- Balcony
- Allocated Parking

Broughton £51,000



- Mid Terraced
- 2 Bedrooms
- Refitted Kitchen
- Refitted Bathroom
- Double Glazed
- Excellent Throughout
- Viewing Recommended

Bletchley £145,000

PUBLIC NOTICE

21a Towan Avenue, Fishermead, MK6 2DS
We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £74,000. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to Inspired Sales & Lettings before an exchange of contracts takes place. EPC Rating D.

Offered for sale with no above chain is this four bedroom detached house with a double garage. The property benefits from three reception rooms, en-suite to master, kitchen and utility, gardens to the front and rear.

Crownhill £279,995

Situated on a generous size corner plot this three storey detached house offers space outside and in and with countryside walks nearby. In excellent condition throughout, there are three floors of spacious and flexible accommodation.

Near To Stony Stratford £312,500

With views of Linford Lakes and with no above chain, viewing of this three bedroom detached house is a must. The property has spacious accommodation and is located with the old town of Newport Pagnell nearby or just a short drive to CMK.

Redhouse Park £250,000

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Tel: 01908 282820
Fax: 01908 282862

BEASLEY & PARTNERS
Residential Sales & Letting Agents

6 High Street
Woburn Sands

Property to let

WOBURN SANDS £745pcm

A one bedroom ground flr garden flat close to local facilities. Flexible furnishings. Single occupancy. Rent to inc most utilities and council tax. Avail 25/02. Short-term let.

WOBURN £813pcm

A unique, large one bedroom apartment situated over two floors, located in the heart of Woburn. Unfurnished. Available 10/02. 12 month let.

WOBURN £1,000pcm

A three bedroom mid terrace property in a rural location with off road parking and brick barn. Unfurnished. Available Feb. Min 12 month rental.

SALFORD £2,300pcm

A stunning six bedroom character property on a plot of 1 1/2 acre garden, situated in a rural location. Unfurnished. Avail 01/02.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY £709pcm

A one bedroom mid terrace property with off road parking and brick outbuilding. Unfurnished. Available Dec. 12 month min contract.

RIDGMONT £900pcm

A three bedroom end of terrace property benefiting from a good size garden and outbuilding. Unfurnished. Available Now. Min 12 month contract.

MARSTON MORETAINE £825pcm

A three bedroom end of terrace property, located in a cul de sac location. with access to Forest Centre walks and lakes. Unfurnished. Min 12 month rental. Available Now.

ASPLEY GUISE £1,300pcm

A four bedroom semi detached chalet style property with two bedrooms and two bathrooms on ground floor. Unfurnished. Available Now.

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Tel: 01908 689561 Email: recruitment@lsnmedia.co.uk

General Vacancies

At Milton Keynes, we're supporting the growth of our vibrant city while continuing to deliver excellent services. It's an exciting place to be and we're keen to get the balance right - including the work-life balance. So if you're looking for family friendly benefits and the chance to make a difference, make a move to MKC.

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Milton Keynes Council is working jointly with the Trade Unions on the introduction of a new Job Evaluation scheme for all single status posts. Therefore the following adverts contain the current salary of the post plus the proposed salary following the outcome of the Job Evaluation exercise. It is anticipated that the new pay arrangements will commence from the 01 April 2014.

Communications Officer

£24,646 - £29,236 **Ref: 50018471**

(proposed salary £22,443 - £26,539)

Join the council's busy communications team, with a brief to plan and deliver communications for our Children and Families service group. Your proven track record of delivering effective and memorable communications will include handling the media and producing professional publications for a range of audiences. Familiarity with children's services is desirable.

For informal enquiries please contact Kellie Evans on 01908 252413.

GIS Officer

£21,067 - £25,727 **Ref: 50010669**

(proposed salary £17,980 - £19,137)

Build on your GIS knowledge in this project implementation role, including leading on residential monitoring, ensuring data is available to service users and the Government. Working within the Corporate Core, Research and Intelligence Service team, you'll manage a range of GIS datasets – scheduling processes and workflows to ensure availability to the intranet, internet and our internal research portal. Along with the ability to apply your technical expertise to data capture projects and create bespoke mapping, you'll need expertise in open source software to help lead an implementation from the current GIS platform also be happy creating and using spreadsheets, databases and Word at a high level.

Community Access Workers – Short Breaks

Full & part-time opportunities available

£15,725 - £18,453 **Ref: 50017817**

(proposed salary £17,980 - £19,317)

As an important part of our commitment to supporting adults with learning disabilities, you'll help provide flexible short breaks to their carers and families. This could involve anything from simply giving them access to community facilities, to arranging new learning opportunities – to organising a few days' respite away from home. Excellent relationship-building and listening skills plus a non-judgemental attitude are a must, as are basic literacy and numeracy – and you'll need the flexibility to work varying shifts.

For informal enquiries please contact Azzra Hussain on 01908 225164.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

Closing Date: 9th February 2014

To apply online visit: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/jobs-careers For an application form, email: jobs@milton-keynes.gov.uk Please quote appropriate reference. Salaries will normally start at the first point of the grade. We are unable to accept CVs, unless accompanied by a completed application form.

It's ability, not disability that counts

General Vacancies

Friday 31st January - 5pm to 8pm
Saturday 1st February - 10am to 2pm

MBDA
Careers Event - Stevenage

MBDA, Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2DA*

MBDA, a world leader in missiles and missile systems, is a multinational group with 10,000 employees across the UK, France, Italy, Germany, Spain and the United States.

With some of the most sophisticated technology in defence, we have a range of opportunities available for **Experienced Engineers & Business Professionals** within the following business areas (though not limited to):

Systems Design/Engineering, Safety and Reliability, Software, Manufacturing, Electronic Design, Environmental Test/Project, Missile (Test, Electronic, Mechanical) Architecture, Project Management/Planning, Export Control, ILS, Commodity Managers and Support vacancies.

We offer excellent benefits including flexible working, paid overtime**, a comprehensive pension scheme, discounted private healthcare, sporting activities, superb learning and development opportunities, and more...

Come along to our Careers Event either on the evening of Friday 31st January or on Saturday the 1st of February 2014 to meet our staff and find out more.

Entry requirements:

- Match your skills to current opportunities at www.mbdacareers.co.uk
- Bring a CV hardcopy with you on the day.
- Relocation assistance may be offered as part of the package (subject to terms and conditions).
- To apply for MBDA UK opportunities you will need to be eligible for SC (Secret Level) UK Security Clearance.
- Photo ID will be required for entry on the day.
- Children under the age of 16 will not be permitted.

* Postcode for Sat Nav users: SG1 2DA
** Subject to level

Join our LinkedIn Group "Engineering UK (Defence) - SC and DV"

To view our current career opportunities, please visit our website www.mbdacareers.co.uk

MBDA MISSILE SYSTEMS

www.jobsnow.co.uk

westminster HOMECARE For a better life www.whc.uk.com

Male and Female Homecare Workers required for Milton Keynes, Luton, Leighton Buzzard & Surrounding Areas.

We are looking for dedicated, motivated, individuals who have experience or are interested in starting a career in social care. We offer training and on-going personal development. A rewarding role for motivated individuals to join our friendly team. We currently have posts for full and part time Care Workers to care for and support our service users. Car drivers essential. Experienced and non-experienced individuals welcome, excellent rates of pay and full paid training provided. Availability for evenings, weekends & weekdays.

For an application form or informal chat please call Julie Lockhart on 01908 373734 or email julie.**lockhart@whc.uk.com**
We are an equal opportunities employer. ©LW

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Central Bedfordshire Council

Central Bedfordshire

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TEAM

● RESIDENTIAL WORKERS

£21,994 - £24,394 per annum, pro rata

Post 1: Part-time, 20 hours per week
Quote ref: 4487a
Post 2: Relief hours - 00 contract
Quote ref: 4536

Maythorn provides 24 hours long/short breaks provision for young people with disabilities. You will have experience, motivation, enthusiasm and ability to manage key working and shift leading responsibilities, to provide a high standard of care. You will be required to undertake statuary training. You will be flexible and able to work a shift pattern including weekends, school and bank holidays.

For an informal discussion please contact Rhonda Couldridge on 0300 300 4226 or email rhonda.couldridge@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

To apply, please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/jobs

Closing date: 2 February 2014
Interview date: TBC

Want to find out more about jobs and careers within Central Bedfordshire Council?

Follow us on Twitter @CBCouncil_jobs or visit our website

Posts working with either children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

Central Bedfordshire Council is committed to equal opportunities.

www.jobsnow.co.uk

Central Bedfordshire Council

Central Bedfordshire

ADULT SOCIAL CARE OPPORTUNITIES

● TEAM MANAGERS X 2

£34,196 - £38,563 per annum
(These posts also attract a market rate supplement of £1,200 per annum) **Quote ref: 4481**
Biggleswade locality and Dunstable & Houghton Regis locality

● SOCIAL WORKERS (LEVEL 2)

£28,343 - £29,704 per annum
(These posts also attract a market rate supplement of £2,000 per annum) **Quote ref: 4480**

● SENIOR PRACTITIONERS

£30,536 - £33,317 per annum
(These posts also attract a market rate supplement of £2,000 per annum) **Quote ref: 4480a**

● LEAD OFFICERS, QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

£34,196 - £38,563 per annum
(These posts also attract a market rate supplement of £1,200 per annum) **Quote ref: 4482**

All posts are full-time at 37 hours per week.

To apply and for full details on all posts, please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/jobs

Closing date for all posts: 2 February 2014
Interviews will be held in February 2014

Want to find out more about jobs and careers within Central Bedfordshire Council?

Follow us on Twitter @CBCouncil_jobs or visit our website

Posts working with either children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

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Executive Assistant

LSN Media provides news and multimedia solutions across our extensive portfolio, including Bedfordshire on Sunday, MK News, Northants Herald & Post and Luton on Sunday.

We are seeking an Executive Assistant to provide administration and secretarial support to our Publisher, Director of Content and management team within LSN Media. The position is based at our Bedford office and being able to drive is essential as the candidate will be required to visit our other offices within the business.

The position would suit a motivated and pro-active individual with sound organisational and administrative skills. Experience in a similar role is essential. The successful applicant must be able to demonstrate excellent written and oral communication skills, have competent IT skills with knowledge of Microsoft Office package.

In return we offer 25 days holiday per year, great potential for further career development, contributory pension and healthcare after qualifying period.

If you feel you are suited to this position and are interested in applying for this role, please request an application pack with a covering letter from Alison Lloyd by email - Alison.lloyd@localworld.co.uk.
Closing date for applications is Friday 7th February 2014.

It is the company's policy to welcome applications from any individual regardless of ethnic origin, gender, disability, religious belief, sexual orientation or age.
We encourage applications from all walks of life and all applications will be considered on merit.

As a division of Local World we also publish weekly newspapers and websites across Herts, Beds, Bucks, Cambs, Northants, Staffs and Essex.

It is the company's policy to employ the best qualified personnel and provide opportunity for the advancement of employees including promotion and training and not discriminate against any person because of sex, race, pregnancy, disability, marital or family status, ages, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or trade union memberships. (Previous applicants need not apply)

LSNmedia
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www.jobsnow.co.uk

Enabling single homeless people to prepare for and achieve independence, through education, supported accommodation, resettlement service & support in the community.

Outreach Worker Fixed Term Contract

Part Time £15,656 per annum pro rata (Actual salary £9,309) | 22 hours per week
Based in Bedford/Sandy | Fixed term contact until 31-10-2018

Funded by the National Lottery through 'The Big Lottery' fund our Stepping Stones project, which delivers education, training and employment to vulnerable adults within our supported accommodations and in the community.

We are looking for a dynamic and enthusiastic Outreach Worker who has excellent communication skills, both written and verbally. You will need to produce written progress reports when requested and be pro- client in the delivery of presentations and able to deliver training in functional skills and careers advice.

Administrator – Outreach Fixed Term Contract

Part-time £12,150 per annum pro rata (Actual salary £6,580) | 20 hours per week
Based in Bedford | Fixed term contact until 31-10-2018

'Funded by the national lottery through 'The Big Lottery' fund our Stepping Stones project, which delivers education, training and employment to vulnerable adults within our supported accommodations and in the community.

We are looking to recruit an administrator who is confident and enthusiastic with good communication and interpersonal skills.

This is a varied role, which includes reception and general administrative duties. You will need to have a competent telephone manner and be a proficient user of Microsoft Word, Excel and Data Base.

For an information pack please contact: Catherine Crook in Human Resources at Bedfordshire Housing Link. 31A Prebend Street Bedford MK40 1QN. Tel 01234 334607 or e-mail recruitment@bhlnet.org

Closing Date: Monday 3rd February 2014

We are committed to Diversity and Equality of Opportunities. We are committed to Equality and Diversity and welcome application from all sections of the community. Bedfordshire Housing Link is a registered Charity.

Supported by The National Lottery® through the Big Lottery Fund

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Charity no: 268639.

Bedfordshire Housing Link

WOBURN FOREST HOUSEKEEPING VACANCIES

We are now recruiting for the following positions within our Housekeeping Department:

CenterParcs
Flourish in the forest

Uniform Administrator

This position will manage the administration, ordering and distribution of uniform for 1500 staff. This is a permanent role working 30 hours per week, Monday to Friday. Pay rate £6.60 per hour.

Various Housekeeping and Supervisor Positions

We have a number of Housekeeper Assistant and Supervisor positions ranging from 9.5 hours to 30 hours per week. Varying contracts are available from early mornings to school hours. Transport is available for certain positions. Pay rates range from £6.60 to £7.26 for Housekeeping Assistants dependent on role. Supervisor pay rate is £7.79.

The right candidates will be team players, who can work on their own initiative. This is an exciting opportunity to work within a team in a fast paced, quality environment.

To apply for these positions, please visit
www.centerparcscareers.co.uk
Closing Date: 2nd February 2014

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE | Hospitality assured

Manshead School

Dunstable Road, Caddington Beds. LU1 4BB
Number on Roll – 1069 (290 in Sixth Form)
Headteacher - Jim Parker

We are an over-subscribed 13-19 School situated on a very attractive site just south of Dunstable. From September 2014 we are expanding to become an 11-19 secondary school.

TEACHING ASSISTANT (INCLUSION)

£9,586 - £10,232 p.a. Vacancy ID: 100725
27.5 hours per week, term-time only

We have a vacancy for a teaching assistant in our Inclusion team with immediate effect. The position involves working with students who have a varied spectrum of Special Educational Needs (SEN), within a classroom setting or small groups. It is desirable, but not essential, for you to have experience of working in a SEN setting, particularly in a mainstream school. There will also be an opportunity to undertake the role of Learning Guide.

For further details and an application form please, telephone 01582 679409 or email office@mansheadschool.co.uk

Closing date: 27 January 2014
Interview date: within 10 days of closing

Manshead is committed to the safeguarding and promotion of children's welfare and all job offers are subject to satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau clearance.

We have a vacancy for a full time band 7 Nurse Practitioner in our busy GP practice.

Working Monday - Friday, 37.5 hours a week, fully qualified, you will be competent in providing appropriate care & treatment in conjunction with the GP partners & the wider nursing team.

Experience in minor illness, BP checks, health screening, ear syringing, dressings, ECG, routine immunisations & injections including travel, contraception, baby immunisations, assisting with the fittings of IUCD/ IUS, first registration checks, health surveillance & general health advice.

Committed to continuing professional development, you will participate in the administrative & professional responsibilities of the practice team.

Applications in writing to:-
The Practice Manager,
Wheatfield Surgery,
60, Wheatfield Road,
Luton,
LU4 0TR.

Closing Date: 4th February 2013

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www.jobsnow.co.uk

NAVIGATORMSL

Mill Road, Sharnbrook, Bedford MK44 1NP

TELESALES/SALES ADMINISTRATOR

We are seeking an experienced person to carry out the following duties:-

- Telesales both warm and cold calling to develop existing customers and find new ones.
- Must be an excellent communicator and able to negotiate with a cheerful and friendly disposition.
- Good IT skills for order entry and preparing quotations
- Advantage with product sales and/or plumbing fittings knowledge

Full time position and a car driver is essential.

Send your cv to:
alison.saunders@navigatormsl.com

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Generous commission rates, regular bonuses, full training and on-going support provided.

Company car available.

Call 0800-804-8690 or 01923-691909 for further details and interview

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CLEANING MACHINE ENGINEER REQUIRED
to service and repair industrial sweepers and scrubber driers at customers sites

Would suit forklift engineer

Clean driving licence, some towing involved

Previous experience an advantage
Bedford based

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07794663312

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Walton High

Bringing out the very best in young people

Fyfield Barrow Milton Keynes MK7 7WH
Tel. 01908 677954 www.waltonhigh.org.uk
Executive Principal: Michelle Currie

Walton High aims to bring out the very best in its young people and we are very proud of our students' academic, creative and sporting achievements. We have the following vacancies for people who believe they would make a positive contribution to the school's work.

Teaching vacancies for September 2014:

Mathematics Teacher MPR/UPR

Science Teacher MPR/UPR

Physics Teacher MPR/UPR

Walton High uses the Milton Keynes Education Trust teachers' salary range, which is above the national pay scale for teachers.

Support staff vacancies:

Behaviour Support Assistant
Term Time only, MK4 £15,882 - £18,638 pro rata

Minibus Driver/General Assistant
Full time, 37 hours per week, MK4 £15,882 - £18,638 per annum
Flexibility to work during the week and at weekends

For further information on these posts and an application form, please visit our website www.waltonhigh.org.uk or contact Human Resources on 01908 247600.

Closing date for teaching vacancies:
Thursday 30 January 2014 at 4 p.m.
Interviews: w/b 3 February 2014.
Closing date for support vacancies:
Wednesday 5 February 2014 at 12 midday.

Walton High is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. These posts require an enhanced DBS check.

Milton Keynes Education Trust
Enabling • Enhancing • Enriching

MKET

www.waltonhigh.org.uk

Papworth Trust

equality choice independence

Community Support Assistants

£6.73 per hour + enhancements **Ref: PAP/866**
Bedford
Various hours available

Are you interested in developing a career in social care?
Would like to work in a fulfilling and rewarding profession?
Do you enjoy making a difference to people's lives?
If the answer is yes, then this is the opportunity for you.

We are looking for individuals aged 18+ who can demonstrate compassion and empathy in their approach to caring for our clients with disabilities. You will work in the community providing personal care and support to people in their own homes with the dignity and respect they have a right to expect.

Closing date: 31 January 2014.

To apply for this role please visit www.papworth.org.uk or call the HR Team on 01480 357200.

Papworth Trust is a regional disability charity and an equal opportunities employer. Charity Number: 211234

best company one to watch 2011

www.papworth.org.uk

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

GRAFTON MOTORCYCLES

Mobile Bike Mechanic

Milton Keynes

Mechanical experience necessary within either bikes or cars.

Must be able to work on own initiative and have a full driving licence.

Please send your CV to Liz@graftonmotorcycles.co.uk

BEDFORD FREE SCHOOL
SERVING BEDFORD & KEMPSTON

Facilities Assistant x 2

£14,000-£18,000 pro rata

Core Curriculum Teachers

- Mathematics (Maternity cover, in the first instance)
- English and Drama

£24,745-£36,360 pro rata

Science – Second in Department

£24,745-£36,360

Plus Bedford Free School responsibilty allowance per annum, pro rata.

Closing Date: **Midday, Monday 27 January 2014**
(Interviews commencing: Thursday January 30 2014)

Our staff will:

- **share our values of respect, honesty and high expectations**
- **believe every student is capable of the highest level of academic and personal success and go the extra mile for our students and their families**
- **have the ability to inspire students to ensure they achieve the best possible individual outcomes within an aspirational environment.**

Small school, big curriculum, infinite possibilities.

Further information on these vacancies and application forms will be available at **www.bedfordfreeschool.co.uk**

Ousedale School

Aspire | Believe | Achieve

Ousedale School offers employees
a friendly and supportive environment
where teaching and associate staff work together
to offer the highest standard of education and pastoral care. We are looking for reliable, flexible and conscientious colleagues to join our friendly site support team for the following posts:

Assistant Site Manager

Salary: £21,067 - £25,727 (MK6)
Hours: 37 hours per week
(8.30 am to 4.30 pm – on occasion you may be asked to cover shifts)
Base Location: Newport Pagnell and Olney Campus

Responsibilities will include the maintenance and improvement of buildings, facilities and grounds of this large secondary school which is based on two separate campuses. The key attribute we are looking for is strong organisational skills.

Caretaker

Salary: £13,725 + 14% shift allowance (MK3)
Hours: 37 hours per week worked over a 2 week shift pattern
Base Location: Olney
(on occasion you may be asked to work at the Newport Pagnell Campus)

Responsibilities will include maintaining high standards of the school's environment to include the security of the premises, gardening and some building maintenance.

If you want to join our school, details and an application form are available on our website www.ousedale.org.uk via email to recruitment@ousedale.org.uk or by applying to Mrs Sue Carbert, Headteacher at the address shown below. Application Forms only will be accepted – please do not send in CVs.

Closing date: Friday, 31st January 2014.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS will be required.

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Headteacher: Mrs S Carbert

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Inclusion Co-ordinator (SENCo) required from 22nd April 2014 to include 1 term handover

MPS/UPS
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We wish to appoint a highly effective leader who can support the school in ensuring our students achieve, regardless of their starting point. We need a person who will create an environment where our young people feel safe and supported and grow in confidence, enabling them to make a positive impact on their education across the school and beyond.

The successful candidate will have an excellent professional knowledge of national policy around SEND with the ability to identify the key implications for the school and exercise a key role in assisting the Leadership Team link and governors with the strategic development of SEN and CP policy and provision.

You will be responsible for overseeing our Inclusion Provisions and the Leadership of the Learning Support Centre, as well as working alongside our curriculum departments to support the raising of aspirations, attainment, achievement, and well-being of our students.

If you want to work with talented, motivated and engaging individuals in an energetic and developing environment we want to hear from you.

Visits to the school are welcomed. Please contact Fran Wade (01234 290200) to arrange a time.

All the information relating to these vacancies can be downloaded from our website: www.markrutherford.beds.sch.uk/vacancies

Please email your completed application forms to fran.wade@mrus.co.uk
We do not accept CVs.

Closing date: 26 January 2014.
Interview date: 4 February 2014.

Bedford Borough schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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For more information and to apply for this role please visit www.cognitaschools.co.uk

Closing date: Monday 3rd February at midday.

Cognita are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the job, including checks with past employers and an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau.

COGNITA

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Information provided on these pages is intended for general information purposes only and does not constitute legal or other professional advice.

Your CV

When you send your CV off to a potential employer, remember that you won't be the only one. Hundreds of other people could be applying for the job as well.

So what are you going to do to make you stand out from the crowd? Why should an employer take a chance on you instead of someone else?

Your CV is your first real chance to sell yourself to a potential employer. Most employers will scan through a CV in about 30 seconds so you need to grab their attention from the start - and make them want to invite you for an interview.

There are five main areas to consider when writing your CV:

• Make sure your CV looks the part. Your CV should look clean and tidy - don't scrawl it out on a piece of A4 paper. If you haven't got access to a PC or printer, ask a friend or use your local library. Use a good quality paper and steer clear of fancy borders and front covers.

• Watch out for silly spelling and grammar mistakes. They make you look lazy and show employers that you don't really care. It's not difficult to do a spell check on your PC and if you're really stuck then don't just guess, reach for a dictionary. Get a friend to read through your CV for you - a second opinion is always useful.

• Make sure your CV is well organised. When you list your previous jobs, make sure the dates are correct and try not to leave any gaps. If you took time out to go travelling then say so - employers won't mark you down just because you've tried something new.

• Don't waffle. Remember that employers don't have time to read every word of your CV. Long paragraphs and sentences put people off, so try bullet-points to break up text. Make sure your CV is no longer than two pages long - employers don't want your life history, they just want to see that you've got what it takes to do the job.

• Don't list any failures. Employers have enough trouble finding someone who is right for the job - they don't need help finding reasons not to employ you. If you have to include a mistake from your past, make sure you show the employer that you learnt something from the experience.

Keep it simple

Personal details
Start off with your full name, address, home and mobile phone numbers and email address . If you are offered an interview, the employer will want to get hold of you so give him as many options as possible.

Summary/professional profile
This is the No1 area for selling yourself. Set out your main skills and personal qualities but keep it interesting and tight - one paragraph should do to cover everything.

Education and qualifications
List your qualifications and education history, with the most recent first. You don't need to list the grades for each exam you have passed unless they were exceptional results - simply listing the number and type of exams you've passed is fine. Also, list any relevant professional organisations you belong to and training courses you have been on.

Work experience
Start with your most recent position and work backwards, giving addresses along with start and finish dates. Set out your main responsibilities, duties and most importantly achievements, along with any skills you picked up or improvements you made while you were there. This is a really important section in your CV so make it count - but don't waffle.

If you have not had a full-time job before, detail any part-time jobs you may have held or any placement you have been on.

Other skills
Set out any computer skills you may have and the software you are most familiar with. Can you type, do shorthand or speak a foreign language fluently? If you have a driving licence, let the employer know. If it's clean, tell them.

Interests & hobbies
Briefly list what you get up to in your spare time. Put down any positions you hold in clubs or associations, along with any responsibilities and achievements.

References
Make sure you have at least two people (including one from your previous or current job) who will tell an employer what a thoroughly nice person you are and what a potential asset to the company you would be.

If you want to list them now make sure you include their name, job title, postal & e-mail address and contact phone numbers. Alternatively, just put "Available on request" so the employer knows to follow up references at a later date.

Add a covering letter

The main aim of a covering letter is to encourage an employer to give you a chance. You want them to read your CV, so sell it to them. You should always enclose a covering letter when applying for a job - most employers won't consider you unless you do.

A covering letter should let the employer know why you are interested in the job and why you think you can do it.

The hints and tips below should point you in the right direction:

• Keep it simple. A covering letter should be short and to the point - no more than six paragraphs.

• Mention the job. If you are replying to an advert, mention what the job is and where you saw it. The company may be advertising for other positions and it may not be clear which job you are applying for.

• Sell yourself. Explain why you are the perfect candidate for the job. Show off your strengths and experience. Refer to your CV - if it goes missing then at least an employer will know that you've sent it.

• Check it for mistakes. A silly spelling mistake in a covering letter is likely to cost you your chance of getting an interview. Also, make sure it is addressed to the right person in the right department.

A covering letter can be just as important as a CV in getting you an interview. It's your first point of contact with your potential employer - so make it count.

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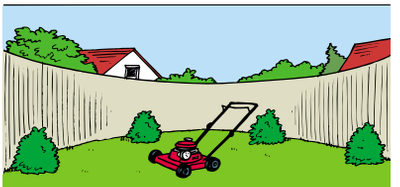

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Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE CERTIFICATE
NOTICE is hereby given that: Starbucks Coffee Company (UK) Ltd
Has applied to THE LICENSING AUTHORITY AT MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL for a PREMISES LICENCE
At Starbucks Drive Thru, The Place Retail Park, Milton Keynes, MK9 1EN.

The following licensable activities are proposed during the following times:

To provide late night refreshment from 00:00- 00:00 hours, seven days a week.

Full details of the application can be viewed via The Licensing Register at the Civic Offices of the Council. This is accessible Mondays to Thursday between the hours of 9am to 5pm, and Fridays 9am to 4pm (excluding bank holidays) or online at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/licensing

Any interested party (such as a resident or local business) or responsible authority wishing to make representations either against or in support of the application must do so in writing by the following date: 17th February 2014

To the following address: LICENSING TEAM

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL
REGULATORY UNIT, CIVIC OFFICES
1 SAXON GATE EAST, MILTON KEYNES MK9 3EJ
01908 252800
Email: licensing@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Representations received in response to this application will ordinarily be made available for public inspection, including disclosure to the applicant and any relevant responsible authorities unless agreed otherwise. Representations must relate to one or more of the licensing objectives (namely crime and disorder, public nuisance, public safety, or protection of children from harm.) Individuals making a representation must live in the vicinity of the premise.

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine of £5,000 is liable on summary conviction for the offence.

Dated this: Monday 20th day of: January 2014

©LW

Public Notices

The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SECTION 123(1), (2A)

LAND AT Emberton Park, Olney Road, Emberton, near Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends to dispose of land having an area of approximately 52 hectares at Emberton Park, Olney Road, Emberton, near Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire which consists of an open space to Milton Keynes Parks Trust Limited for use as leisure, recreation and open space with ancillary uses.

Objections to the intended disposal must be made in writing and addressed to:

The Estate Manager, Property Services, the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes, of Saxon Court, 502 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3HS

by no later than 29 January 2014

Dated 22 January 2014

David Hill
Chief Executive

APPLICATION TO LICENCE PREMISES FOR CIVIL CEREMONIES

Notice is given that the following application has been received for a Licence for the use of premises listed below for civil ceremonies.

A copy of the application and covering plans will be available for inspection at the Register Office Bracknell House Aylesbury Street Bletchley Milton Keynes on weekdays between 9.30am and 4.30pm from Monday 27 January 2014 until Friday 14 February 2014.

Anyone wishing to object to this application should write to the Proper Officer for Registration Civic Offices 1 Saxon Gate East Central Milton Keynes stating their objections by Monday 17 February 2014.

Karen Ford
Proper Officer for Registration

Name and Address of Applicant

Novotel Milton Keynes
Saxon Street
Leyburn Court
Heelands
Milton Keynes
MK13 7RA

Rooms to be licensed
The Linford Suite

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL
NOTICE OF LOCAL HEARING FOR THE EXAMINATION OF THE WOBURN SANDS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Mr Peter Biggers, the Examiner appointed to consider the Woburn Sands Neighbourhood Plan, has, as part of his examination of the plan, asked for a local hearing to be held.

The hearing will take place at **9:30am on Wednesday 29 January 2014** and will be held at the **Woburn Sands Memorial Hall, 4 High Street, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes, MK17 8RH.**

The hearing is open to the public, but participation in the discussion is at the invitation of the Examiner only. Invited participants have been contacted individually.

The examination will focus on whether the Neighbourhood Plan is in general conformity with the Milton Keynes Core Strategy.

A copy of the draft programme for the hearing can be viewed at: http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/woburn-sands-neighbourhood-plan

The responses received by Milton Keynes Council during the publicity period carried out between 4 September and 30 October 2013 can also be viewed at this address.

For more information about the examination of the Neighbourhood Plan please contact the Development Plans Team at:

Email: Development.plans@milton-keynes.gov.uk
Tel: 01908 252358

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA FOR THE PARISH OF OLNEY
Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Milton Keynes Council has received an application for the designation of a neighbourhood area and, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the Council is carrying out a six week consultation on the proposed Neighbourhood Area from **Wednesday 22 January 2014 to Wednesday 5 March 2014.**

The application:

Olney Town Council - the Council has submitted proposals to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for Olney that covers the whole parish area. The application is accompanied by a map showing the extent of the proposed Neighbourhood Area and a statement from the Council explaining why and how they intend to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the area.

The application can be seen on the Milton Keynes Council website at: http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-policy

How to comment:

All comments on the proposed Neighbourhood Area must be received by the Development Plans team by **5pm on Wednesday 5 March 2014.** Comments can be made:

By email to: development.plans@milton-keynes.gov.uk
By post to: Development Plans, Milton Keynes Council
Planning and Transport
Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Central Milton Keynes
MK9 3EJ

By fax to: 01908 252211

Please note that this is not a consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan itself, but merely the identification of the area for which the Parish or Town Council wish to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Neighbourhood Plans are a way for Town and Parish Councils to help shape how their community develops over the coming years.

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (VARIOUS ROADS, OLNEY) (CONSOLIDATION OF PARKING AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2002) VARIATION ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has, on the 22nd January 2014, made an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which will affect all classes of vehicle and have the following effects:

The introduction of no waiting at any time restrictions along some lengths of Dinglederry, Long Lane and Cobbs Garden, Olney, at their junctions with West Street, Olney.

Additional no waiting at any time restrictions along parts of West Street and Spring Lane, Olney.

This Order will take effect from the 23rd January 2014.

The classes of vehicle affected by the Order are passenger vehicles, dual-purpose vehicles, goods vehicles, disabled persons' vehicles, mopeds and motorcycles. Exemptions from the Order include: emergency service vehicles, statutory undertakers, some loading and unloading, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders and some others.

Copies of the Order as made, together with a map showing the areas referred to may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, Olney Library, High Street, Olney and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Please quote reference WL/P&E/8368/TRO/2275.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

22nd January 2014

Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Central Milton Keynes

Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law & Governance

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(VARIOUS ROADS, ROOKSLEY) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING AND RIGHT TURNS) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 22 January 2014 made the above Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Order, which comes into effect on 23 January 2014, affects all classes of vehicle and has the following effects in parts of roads and areas within Rooksley, Milton Keynes:-

- The introduction of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on both sides of the carriageway along lengths of Deltic Avenue and Patriot Drive.
- The introduction of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions along both sides of the access road leading from Patriot Drive to and from the car parking area at the B&Q retail store.
- The introduction of a 'No Right Turn' restriction for all vehicles exiting the Central Retail Park car parking area at its junction with Patriot Drive, Rooksley.

Exemptions include emergency service vehicles, military vehicles, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

Copies of the Order together with maps showing the areas referred to, and a Statement of Reasons for proposing the Order may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

22 January 2014

Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Central Milton Keynes

Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law & Governance

PUBLIC NOTICE
THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(COUNTESS WAY, BROUGHTON) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 22 January 2014 made an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Order, which takes effect on 24 January 2014, affects all classes of vehicle and has the following effects:-

- The introduction of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions along both sides of the carriageway of Countess Way, Broughton.

Exemptions from the Order include emergency service vehicles, military vehicles, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

Copies of the Order and its map showing the areas referred to, as well as a Statement of Reasons for proposing to make the Order may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes; at Kingston Library, Kingston Community Centre, 11 Winchester Gate, Kingston, Milton Keynes MK10 0BA, and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

22 January 2014

Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Central Milton Keynes

Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law & Governance

Milton Keynes Council

The following applications may be inspected at the Planning, Economy and Development Department, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Representations, if any, to be submitted in writing to the above address within 21 days of the publication of this notice.

SECTION 73	**WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
13/02591/FUL	Erection of bin and wood store, fence panels and gate (Retrospective) at 119 High Street, Stony Stratford
13/02633/LBC	Listed building consent to erect bin and wood store, fence panels and gate (Retrospective) at 119 High Street, Stony Stratford
14/00002/TCA	Notification of intention to remove to ground level 5 x Hazel trees (T1,T2,T5,T6,T7); 1 x Laburnum tree (T3), 2 x Holly trees (T4,T9); 1 x Laurel tree (T8); 2 x Ash tree (T10,T11); 1 x Prunus tree (T12); and reduce overhanging branches by 20% and shape into crown, and crown lift to 5 metres 1 x Beech tree (T13) at 24 High Street, Olney
14/00034/FUL	Single storey rear extension at 21 Wolverton Road, Stony Stratford
14/00057/FUL	Replacement front windows (retrospective) at 51 Windsor Street, Wolverton
SECTION 67 & 73	**LISTED BUILDING WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
13/02704/LBC	Listed building consent for the placement of a Sky mini satellite dish (size 45cm) on back of chimney stack at 75 High Street, Olney
SECTION 67	**LISTED BUILDING**
13/02463/FUL	Removal of full height windows and closing up the window openings with a combination of masonry brick and block cavity walls; installation of double glazed timber casement window; forming an opening to an internal wall at Red Lion, 11 Lock View Lane, Bletchley
13/02464/LBC	Listed building consent for the removal of full height windows and closing up the window openings with a combination of masonry brick and block cavity walls; installation of double glazed timber casement window; forming an opening to an internal wall at Red Lion, 11 Lock View Lane, Bletchley
13/02686/FUL	Erection of new dwelling at Filgrave House, Filgrave To A509, Filgrave
13/02687/LBC	Listed building consent to demolish squash court building at Filgrave House, Filgrave To A509, Filgrave
14/00026/FUL	Revised House Type Plot 3 (11/01135/FUL) at 27 Little Stocking, Shenley Brook End
14/00027/LBC	Listed building consent to revise house type Plot 3 at 27 Little Stocking, Shenley Brook End
SECTION 67	**AFFECTING THE SETTING OF A LISTED BUILDING**
13/02659/FUL	Change of use from agricultural land to a car park at Foreign And Commonwealth Office, Hanslope Park, Hanslope Park Road, Hanslope

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)

An appeal has been lodged by Offgrid Power Wind Limited against the non-determination of the planning application 12/02611/FUL for erection of one 500kw wind turbine (hub height 50m, overall tip height 78m) and supporting infrastructure (Re-submission of 12/01024/FUL) at Dovecote Farm, Turvey Road, Astwood, Newport Pagnell, MK16 9JX.

An appeal has been lodged by JAJ Sawbridge and Sons against the non-determination of the planning application 13/00195/FUL for installation of 3 bladed wind turbine (maximum tip height 99.5m), including access, substation and underground cabling at Lodge Farm House, Wolverton Road, Castlethorpe,Milton Keynes, MK19 7ES

These appeals have been joined and will be determined together at a Hearing, which you may attend, and at the inspector's discretion, give your views. The public inquiry will be held at Christ the Cornerstone Church, 300 Saxon Gate, Milton Keynes, MK9 2ES commencing at 10.00am on Tuesday 4th February 2014 until 6th February 2014.

For further details please contact Planning Enquiries, Development Control, Milton Keynes Council, Tel: 01908 252358.

NICK FENWICK
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(VARIOUS ROADS, KNOWLHILL) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes proposes to make an order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, which will affect all classes of vehicle and will have the following effects in parts of roads within Knowlhill, Milton Keynes:-

- The introduction of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on both sides of the carriageway along lengths of Kelvin Drive, Roebuck Way, Davy Avenue, Seebeck Place and Whittle Court; and Harrison Close.

Exemptions from the proposed order include emergency service vehicles, military vehicles, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

Copies of the proposed order together with maps showing the areas referred to, and a Statement of Reasons for proposing the order may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes.

Any objections to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be **made in writing** and sent to the undersigned **to be received** no later than 23 February 2014 quoting reference BAS-P&E-8604-2308.

22 January 2014

Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Central Milton Keynes

Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law & Governance

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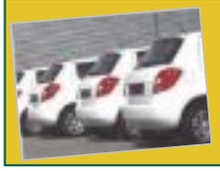

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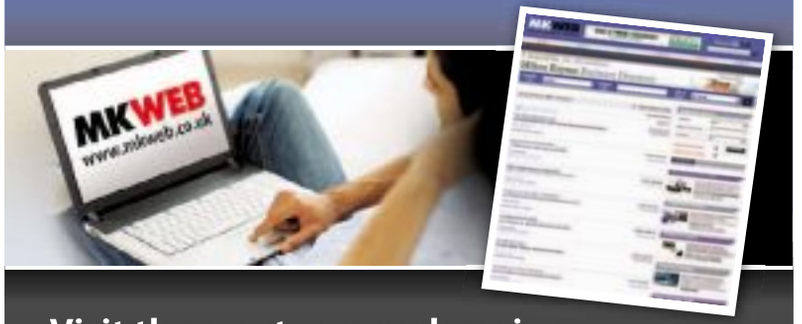

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SPRINTER turned bobsledder Craig Pickering is set to join an elite club of Great Britain athletes who have represented their country at both a Summer and Winter Olympic games.

The Milton Keynes track star competed in the 4x100m relay in Beijing in 2008 and now looks certain to be part of the British bobsleigh squad for the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

Team GB qualified a second four-man sled for next month's games at the final World Cup race in Igls in Austria on Sunday with Pickering set to take his place in it as a brakeman.

It would be quite an achievement for the MK Athletic Club man, who was approached by British Bobsleigh performance director Gary Anderson about switching sports after his athletics funding was slashed in 2012 following injury problems.

"Two years ago I was at home thinking my career was over," said Pickering.

"But today I made my second Olympic Games. Never give up."

The squad is expected to be confirmed today (Wednesday) and Pickering will ride with driver Lamin Deen in the GB2 sled.

He had previously asked to be replaced in the GB1 sled, piloted by John Jackson, as he believed this would be most beneficial for the first string who are aiming for a podium spot in Sochi.

This move, described as 'noble' by Jackson, realistically ended his medal hopes but it also put Pickering's Olympic participation at risk as Great Britain were by no means guaranteed to qualify a second bobsleigh.

But with Jackson's team already certain of their place in Russia, the other three members of his sled – Stuart Benson, Bruce Taskar and Joel Fearon – raced with Deen in Igls and the extra firepower paid dividends.

Deen steered the crew to an 11th placed finish which was enough for qualification as it secured the second British sled's berth in the all-important world top 20.

Many other countries also employed this tactic – which is allowed under regulations – with Pickering and the rest of Deen's team joining Jackson's sled for a 20th placed finish.

Pickering, who won a World Indoor relay bronze medal, would be only the eighth person to have been selected for both Olympics by Great Britain.

CYCLING

City is in line for World Cup event

MILTON Keynes could be set to host a round of the Cyclo-Cross World Cup.

Simon Burney, who has been working with MK Council on putting together a bid, has described the city's chances as being '99 per cent certain' following a visit by representatives of the UCI – cycling's world body – last week.

Cyclo-cross has been described as cross country racing on bikes with woodland, grass, hills and obstacles often forming part of the course. A provisional date of November 29 has been set for the MK leg and the venue would be Campbell Park.

"Campbell Park will make an ideal venue for a major cyclo-cross event," said Burney, who has been a rider and manager in the sport.

"It's naturally a hilly area and only a hundred yards or so from the city centre so is easily accessible for hotels, restaurants and shops.

"Most World Cup races take place away from a city centre so to have an event in the middle of a city as big as Milton Keynes will be something really different.

"There was an article on one of the cycling websites around August or September last year about there being a slot on the calendar for a round of this season's World Cup and the council's cycling development officer Richard Duffill who I've known for years gave me a call and things pretty much went from there."

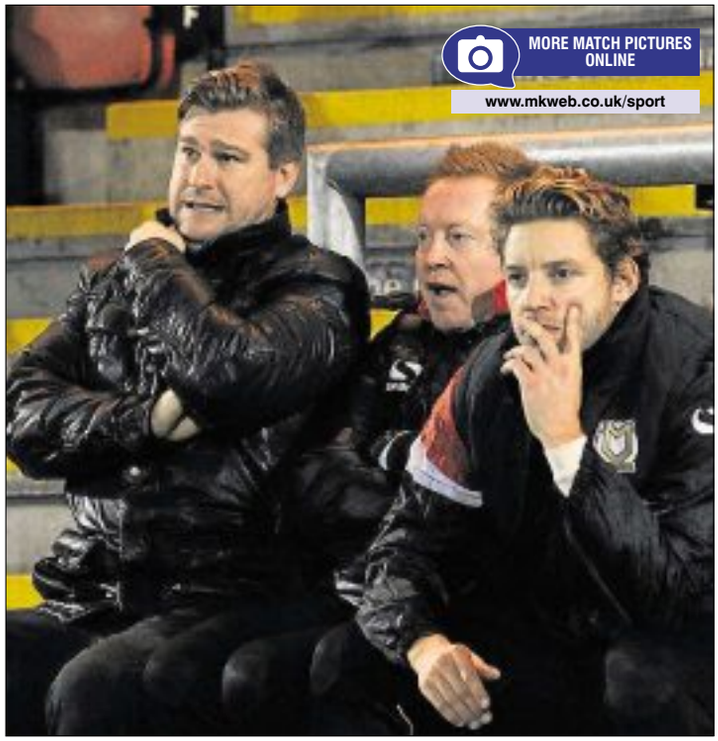
The UCI delegation included Beat Wabel, the Swiss rider who was both a junior and senior world champion at cyclo-cross.

Burney said he was very positive about the suggested course which will be between 2.5 and 2.7kms in length.

"Beat said the course has great potential," he said. "He suggested that we move the pits area – with mud being a major feature in cyclo-cross races, top riders regularly swap bikes during a race – and made some other suggestions as well which we'll take on board."

A decision about the Milton Keynes bid will be made by the sport's World Council next week in the Netherlands just before the 2014 World Championships.

A round of the national series could possibly take place in MK the following day.



Subdued: Boss Karl Robinson, assistant Gary Waddock and Alan Smith look on

Saved: Shaun Williams steps up to the spot

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

			Home					Away						
	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Leyton Orient	26	7	2	2	24	10	10	4	1	32	14	+32	57
2	Brentford	26	10	1	2	25	10	7	4	2	20	14	+21	56
3	Wolves	26	9	3	2	23	8	6	4	2	18	11	+22	52
4	Preston	6	5	6	2	18	16	8	3	2	18	11	+9	48
5	Peterborough	27	9	1	4	20	15	5	2	6	24	20	+9	45
6	Rotherham	26	4	6	3	23	22	8	2	3	22	12	+11	44
7	Walsall	27	6	3	4	15	14	5	6	3	15	10	+6	42
8	Port Vale	26	7	3	3	20	16	5	0	8	17	23	-2	39
9	Swindon	26	9	1	2	28	15	2	3	9	14	21	+6	37
10	DONS	26	7	3	3	24	16	3	3	7	17	22	+3	36
11	Coventry	26	7	4	3	32	29	5	4	3	23	16	+10	34
12	Colchester	26	5	3	5	18	17	3	7	3	17	17	+1	34
13	Bradford	26	4	6	3	22	14	3	6	4	16	18	+6	33
14	Gillingham	27	6	4	5	20	18	3	1	8	15	27	-10	32
15	Crawley	24	5	4	4	13	15	2	5	4	14	17	-5	30
16	Notts County	28	6	1	6	20	14	2	2	11	16	29	-7	27
17	Oldham	26	4	3	4	11	11	3	3	9	16	23	-7	27
18	Carlisle	26	5	2	6	19	26	2	4	7	9	21	-19	27
19	Crewe	27	5	4	5	16	21	2	2	9	11	32	-26	27
20	Shrewsbury	27	4	4	7	12	15	2	4	6	14	20	-9	26
21	Sheff Utd	26	5	5	3	18	14	1	3	9	8	21	-9	26
22	Tranmere	26	2	5	5	15	25	4	2	8	14	23	-19	25
23	Bristol City	25	3	6	5	19	20	1	6	4	17	19	-3	24
24	Stevenage	26	3	2	7	12	18	3	2	9	12	26	-20	22

Lightning win one and lose one for second week running

ICE HOCKEY

THERE was a second consecutive weekend of mixed fortunes for MK Lightning who once again came away from their two fixtures with one victory and one defeat.

Just like last week, Nick Poole's side notched up a home victory on Saturday as Swindon Wildcats were seen off 3-1 at their temporary base of the Coventry Skydome.

However, they were unable to push on for the maximum haul of a four-point weekend as they slipped to a 5-2 defeat at Telford Tigers 24-hours later on Sunday.

Lightning still sit comfortably in fourth place in the English Premier League – nine points ahead of fifth positioned Sheffield Steeldogs with two games in hand.

With the top eight advancing to the end of season play-offs Poole's men look like certainties for more ice hockey following the end of the league schedule, but they will need to string a more consistent run of results together if they are to achieve the coach's target of putting pressure on the sides who are above them.

As things stand Lightning are seven points adrift of third placed Guildford Flames, although they do have three games in hand, while the top two of Manchester Phoenix and Basingstoke Bison are both eight in front of MK, with the former having played two games less and the latter two more.

It took an empty net goal from Blaz Emersic to finally put home fans at ease in the Swindon victory.

Lightning were just 2-1 up with 19 seconds left, which prompted the Wildcats to withdraw their netminder Stevie Lyle for an extra skater on the ice.

The tactic back-fired though as Emersic slid the puck home into the unguarded net to finally seal victory in what had been a scrappy contest.

Chances were few and far between in the first period with neither side really producing many shots that were likely to beat a netminder.

The deadlock was broken in the second period through Leigh Jamieson and Lightning quickly had a second thanks to Emersic.

Lightning's Grant McPherson and Wildcats' Ryan Watt were both given 10 minute misconduct penalties after a dust-up as the match became increasingly fiery and Jonas Hoog - who bagged Swindon's goal – was thrown out of the game late on for checking to the head of Michael Farn.

Janne Jokila gave MK an early lead in Telford and he later grabbed a second which proved to only be a consolation as by that point Lightning trailed 5-1.

Meanwhile, the dates of the EPL Cup semi-final with Manchester have been set, with the home leg in Coventry on February 5 preceding the away trip to the Phoenix on February 13.

Cats tamed: Action from Lightning's win over Swindon. Picture: Jez Tibbetts

Taylors sell houses. TAYLORS Estate Agents

Williams spot kick miss haunts Dons

FROM BACK PAGE

Alexandra Stadium, had the first chance of the match with barely a minute played.

The 17-year-old midfielder took aim from outside the box but his shot was off target.

Ajay Leitch-Smith then had the first effort for Crewe, themselves known for historically producing talented youngsters, but his curling strike was gobbled up comfortably by Dons goalkeeper David Martin.

On a wet night conditions were difficult for both sides but it was the visitors who got to grips with things better in the early going with a slick range of passing.

They were inches away from breaking the deadlock when Samir Carruthers rifled a fine drive off the crossbar after the Aston Villa loanee collected from Darren Potter.

Dons continued to crank up the pressure and with no game due on Saturday because of scheduled League One opponents Preston's continued involvement in the FA Cup, they had licence to crank up the throttle.

There was a shout for a penalty when George Baldock was fouled on the edge of the box – but with some feeling the indiscretion was inside the referee awarded a free-kick instead.

From the resulting set-piece Williams fired into the wall and Crewe escaped to punish Dons at the other end.

It was against the run of play, but when Stephen Gleeson was called up for a foul on-loan Arsenal man Chuks Aneke bent his free-kick deliciously over the wall and past a helpless Martin.

Crewe, who started the night second from bottom of the table, had scarcely threatened but they retreated into the dressing room at half-time with the lead.

The wet weather continued to make life difficult after the re-start but Alli didn't see too much more of the action, as the youngster was replaced by Dean Bowditch.

If any of the scouts decided to depart at that point then they would have missed a sudden moment of drama as Dons were awarded their penalty kick for handball against Crewe's Harry Davis. Williams stepped up but his effort lacked power and was saved by Ben Garratt.

Sent flying: On-loan striker Chris Long takes a tumble at Crewe yesterday. Pictures: Andy Handley

This was the Irishman's second spot kick failure in a row after his effort at Wigan in the FA Cup was also saved and was a golden opportunity to get back into the game wasted.

It could have been worse for Dons shortly afterwards but Byron Moore made a mess of a one-on-one for Crewe.

They weren't made to pay for that error though as Leitch-Smith doubled the lead for the Railwaymen.

After receiving the ball thanks to a lucky deflection he steered it past Martin to make Williams' penalty miss all the more meaningful.

Mark Ellis was close to grabbing a third for the Alex shortly afterwards but the hosts did not need that extra touch of gloss as they held out for their victory.

Dons missed the chance to go eighth in the table with Williams' penalty miss a huge momentum shifter in the contest.

In the end it was that failure from 12 yards and a general lack of a cutting edge or the ability to test the keeper while they were on top which ultimately cost them – and the gap to the play-off spots is now eight points, with the game in hand on most of the teams above them now lost.

Crewe: Garratt, Mellor, Tootle, Grant (Osman 81), Davis, Ellis, Moore, Evans, Leitch-Smith (Pogba 88), Aneke, Inman. Unused subs: Dugdale, Ray, Martin, Guthrie, Waters.

Dons: Martin, Lewington, Baldock, Gleeson, Williams, Kay, Potter, Carruthers (Chadwick 60), Long (Powell 57), Reeves, Alli (Bowditch 51) Unused subs: Flanagan, Smith, McLeod, McLoughlin.

SPORTSSHORTS

RUGBY UNION

BLETCHLEY are a step closer to a showpiece clash at Twickenham after they eased past Reading Abbey 29-5 in the semi-finals of the Southern Counties Intermediate Cup.

After defeating Milton Keynes in the final of the Bucks Shield last month, Bletchley won the right to represent the county in the competition and they saw off Berkshire side Abbey.

They will now travel to Trowbridge for the Southern Counties final with the winners then advancing to the national stages. These will culminate in a final at Twickenham – the home of English rugby – where the RFU Intermediate Cup will be at stake.

All of Bletchley's points were scored without reply, starting with two Phil Harman tries, one of which he converted himself.

Adam Fox, George Harman and Kyle Gibbings then all crossed the whitewash before Abbey grabbed a consolation try late on.

Meanwhile Milton Keynes – boosted recently by the news that former player Ed Slater has made England's Six Nations squad – saw off the challenge of Swindon College Old Boys with a narrow 32-30 away win which leaves them fourth in the Southern Counties North, with Bletchley still leading the way.

Olney were beaten 35-14 at Newbold-on-Avon and are sixth in Midlands 2 East South.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

DARREN Frost bagged a hat-trick as Newport Pagnell Town came from 2-0 down to beat Long Buckby 3-2 – giving their survival hopes a boost in the United Counties League Premier.

Josh Crawley and Joe Power gave Long Buckby the ideal start but Frost reduced the arrears just before the break. He then struck twice after half-time to leave the Swans 16th.

Many local sides saw their games postponed but New Bradwell St Peter did get their game on in the Spartan South Midlands League Division Two, going down 4-0 to Hale Leys United. They are 10th in the table.

HOCKEY

MILTON Keynes Men's 1sts were beaten 3-0 at high flying Sevenoaks in the South Hockey League Premier Division One. The reverse leaves them 10th in the 12 team table.

Elsewhere, there was a valuable win for the Ladies' 1sts who moved off the bottom of the South Clubs' Division 3A with a 3-2 home win over Banbury.

The victory followed five consecutive defeats and was only their third of the season, bumping them up one spot to 11th.

ATHLETICS

LAURA Zialor won gold in the F17 triple jump at the South of England Indoor Championships at Lee Valley, with a leap of 11.45m.

Her MK Athletic Club team-mate Lucy Johnston took bronze with 10.83m.

Elsewhere, MK Sprinter Joey Duck has been selected for the England Athletics European Indoor Tour Team.

BADMINTON

Emms to make comeback at the Nationals

OLYMPIC silver medallist Gail Emms will make a comeback to the sport at the English National Championships in Milton Keynes next month.

The 36-year-old, who lives in the city, claimed second spot on the podium at Athens 2004 with Nathan Robertson in the mixed doubles and is now set to return to the court for a one-off battle on two fronts.

She will partner three-times champion Ella Tripp in the women's doubles and 2013 finalist Marcus Ellis in the mixed at the Nationals, which are being held at the new stadiummk arena on February 8 and 9.

Emms, a former World, European and Commonwealth champion in the mixed and a European champion in the women's doubles, initially announced her retirement from the sport after the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

In October she joined the MK-based Badminton England's coaching staff, taking on a role which sees her nurture the country's best female talent in doubles.

Adrian Christy, chief executive of Badminton England, said: "We are really looking forward to the National Championships next month, particularly as it's being held in Milton Keynes in our 'home' city for the first time.

"The very best players in the country will be on show along with many of our up and coming young talent.

"And with Gail making a Nationals comeback, there promises to be lots of intriguing matches and thrilling badminton in store for everyone to enjoy."

World number five mixed pair Chris and Gabby Adcock, who reached the quarter-finals at this week's Malaysian Open, are among the big name English players who will be battling for glory in Milton Keynes.

In the men's singles, Commonwealth silver medallist Rajiv Ouseph will be chasing an amazing seventh title in a row but will face competition from Toby Penty and rising young stars like Rhys Walker, Sam Parsons and Alex Lane.

Meanwhile in the women's singles, Sarah Walker of Essex will defend the title she won for the first time last year but runner-up Fontaine Chapman is the highest-ranked entry in the field.

Heather Olver will be bidding for a first women's doubles title having been runner-up four times to Gabby Adcock, who defends her crown with Lauren Smith.

In the men's doubles, world number ten pair Chris Adcock and Andy Ellis are looking to recapture the title they won in 2012.

In total there will be 132 players from 33 counties.

There will be 32 players in the men's and women's singles draws and 24 pairs in each of the three doubles events.

For more information about the tournament or to buy tickets go to www.nationalbadmintonchamps.co.uk.

MKSPORT
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Pickering set for Sochi - page 74

Pain in the rain

DONS slipped to a disappointing 2-0 defeat at strugglers Crewe Alexandra last night as their bid to close in on the play-off spots was knocked off track by the Railwaymen.

The hosts grabbed a goal in each half to win in soggy conditions in Cheshire.

Defender Shaun Williams saw a penalty saved for Dons which would have levelled the game at 1-1 on another frustrating Tuesday evening fixture for Karl Robinson's side.

Young starlet Dele Alli, who was again watched by a team of Premier League scouts at the

TURN TO PAGE 75

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